

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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BOUCETTA CHAIRS ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE

LD091708 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Here is a dispatch from our reporters at the conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries:

The conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries this morning resumed work at the conference at the Royal Palace in Fez under the chairmanship of M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation. After approving the agenda and forming four committees, the foreign ministers of the Islamic countries took their first political decision; namely, to suspend Egypt's membership in the organization of the Islamic Congress. Abu Mayzar, the PLO spokesman, said that the decision was not directed against the people of Egypt.

At a press conference, Qasim az-Zuhayri, assistant general secretary of the Organization of Islamic Congress and the conference spokesman, confirmed the decision of the conference of the foreign ministers to suspend Egypt's membership in the Organization of Islamic Congress and the unanimous approval of the decision. The conference spokesman said that the delegation of the Sultanate of Oman abstained from voting, while Senegal, Gabon and Gambia made remarks on the subject on the basis of belonging also to the OAU, which will meet in Monrovia to discuss this subject. Yet these three African delegations stressed [word indistinct] Qasim az-Zuhayri, their commitment to the aims of the Organization of Islamic Congress to liberate Palestine and to insure the national interests of the Palestinian people, including the right to return and to establish their own state on the land of Palestine and to consider the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Abu Mayzar, the PLO spokesman, commenting on the conference's decision to suspend Egypt's membership at a press conference he held this morning after the foreign ministers approved the decision, said:

[Abu Mayzar--begin recording] The PLO goes on record to express its pride in the great fraternal, Muslim and struggling Egyptian people and places on record its appreciation for the sacrifices of the Egyptian people and the Egyptian Army and hopes the reasons that led to this decision will be removed as soon as possible so that free Egypt, patriotic Egypt, Muslim Egypt and the Egypt which has accustomed us not to surrender may return to Arab rank and Islamic rank. This decision will be a new incentive to our Arab people in Egypt to cling further to Egypt's, the Arabs and the Muslim's national rights. Thank you. [end recording]

Further Report on Conference

LD092104 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] Here is a dispatch from our radio correspondent in Fez on the work of the 10th conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states:

The 10th conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states continues its work at Fez under the chairmanship of the M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation. The Moroccan delegation is led by Dr Ahmed Ramzi, the minister of religious endowments and Islamic affairs.

The foreign ministers held another meeting this afternoon to debate the report of the General Secretariat of the Islamic Congress Organization. At this session it was decided to consider the speech with which His Majesty King Hassan II opened the conference yesterday as a document to guide the participants in their debate of the various issues under study.

The conference heard a review by the leader of the Islamic Turkish community in Cyprus, Rauf Denktaş, who praised the effort of His Majesty King Hassan II in consolidating Islamic solidarity. He noted that Morocco's support to the Islamic issues was clearly evident in the warm reception given by the people of Fez to his majesty the king and the leaders of the delegations while they were on their way to the conference hall from the Royal Palace yesterday evening.

The leader of the Turkish Muslims in Cyprus submitted a review on the harassment this community experiences and on the refusal of the Greek Cypriots to hold a dialog with the Turkish Muslim community. He proposed that Islamic states send delegations of experts and journalists to Cyprus to ascertain the real situation, as the Muslim Turks regard themselves an indivisible part of the Islamic world.

During the general debate, the Turkish foreign minister also spoke. He expressed his country's interest in the progress being made in Morocco thanks to the efforts of His Majesty King Hassan II. He praised Morocco's stands of solidarity with the rest of the Islamic countries and peoples.

With regard to the Middle East question, he noted that the Palestinian issue is the essence of the problem and reaffirmed that this problem cannot be resolved with granting the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The leader of the Turkish delegation denounced Israel's acts of aggression on Lebanon and the foreign interference in Africa, noting that the OAU is the only organization suited for settling the differences among the African states. On the other hand he denounced also the racial discrimination in Africa and the occupation of Namibia by South Africa.

On the question of Cyprus, he called for the establishment of a federal republic embracing the Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

He was followed by the leader of the Iraqi delegation who condemned the Israeli-U.S. policy in the Middle East and demanded more material and moral support for the PLO. He also condemned the policy of racial discrimination in Africa.

The leader of the Jordanian delegation called for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights to establish an independent state.

The leader of the Palestinian delegation concentrated his speech on condemning the Camp David Israeli-Egyptian agreement because it threatens security and peace in the region and the whole world.

One of the most important issues which the Political and Information Affairs Committee discussed under the chairmanship of Mohammed al-Arbi al-Khattabi was the question of occupied Jerusalem and the backing of the Palestinian steadfastness inside Jerusalem.

Within the framework of the discussion of financial aid for consolidating this steadfastness, Morocco announced its contribution of \$200,000 to Jerusalem. Some of the other states announced their contributions too. Pakistan contributed \$20,000.

Morocco had donated another \$200,000 to the Fund of Islamic Solidarity.

Sudan Delegation Walks Out

NC091956 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1942 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] Fez, 9 May--The Sudanese delegation walked out of today's morning session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference when the decision to suspend Egypt's membership in the Islamic Congress Organization was adopted. The Sudanese delegation then returned and put Sudan's position in writing, declaring that it opposes the decision to suspend Egypt's membership in the Islamic Congress Organization.

The Sudanese delegation also asked Qasim az-Suhayri, the conference's official spokesman, to correct the statement he made at a press conference this morning to the effect that Sudan had approved without reservation the decision to suspend Egypt's membership.

The Sultanate of Oman also opposed the decision. Senegal, Niger, Upper Volta, Guinea Bissau, Gambia and Gabon expressed reservations.

The session was chaired by the Moroccan foreign minister.

Second Session

LD092359 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Excerpts] Here is a dispatch by the radio correspondent from Fez on the work of the conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states:

During the time when the four committees of the conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states were meeting to study the issues which have been submitted to it, the 10th conference continued within the general assembly of the conference under the chairmanship of the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, M'hamed Boucetta.

During the second session, which lasted for 4 and 1/2 hours, the leaders of the delegations of 11 states spoke. They were Turkey, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Palestine, Libya, Tunisia, Cameroon, the UAE, Lebanon and Mali. The representative of Nigeria, who is attending as an observer, also spoke. The leader of the Muslim Turkish community in Cyprus also addressed the conference.

The delegates spoke about the various issues on the agenda of the conference, concentrating on the Middle East, Palestine, Jerusalem and Islamic solidarity to confront the challenges, pointing out the importance of these issues.

The Tunisian foreign minister asked that a plan should be laid down for finding satisfactory solutions for the Palestinian issue and the question of Jerusalem, and called for supporting the Palestinian revolution.

The leader of the UAE delegation said that his country believes that the questions of Jerusalem and Palestine have entered a new and serious phase and, therefore, these issues should occupy the top position at this session and any subsequent session. He noted that what had happened prior to and after the Camp David meeting has not insured the rights of the Arabs.

The leader of the Lebanese delegation spoke about the situation in his country and said that his country was experiencing a ferocious conspiracy, especially in the south. He appealed to the Islamic states for concerted efforts to help the Lebanese in their search for Imam Musa as-Sadr as a service to the spiritual values.

With regard to the resolution passed by the conference of the foreign ministers of the Islamic states at this morning's session on suspension of Egypt's membership in the Islamic Congress Organization, the assistant secretary general of the Islamic Congress Organization and the spokesman of the conference, Qasim az-Zuhayri, provided new clarifications at the press conference he held this evening at the end of today's meeting.

In these clarifications, he said that six African states did not participate in the voting on the resolution regarding the suspending Egypt's membership. These countries were Senegal, Gabon, Gambia, Upper Volta, Niger and Guinea Bissau. This decision by these African states was in conformity with the attitude of the OAU, which has not adopted a (?definite) attitude in anticipation of the Monrovia conference, although these six countries have reaffirmed their solidarity with the Palestinian people and the PLO. The delegations of both Oman and the Sudan abstained from voting.

Following these new clarifications, which were made by the conference spokesman and which were a joint declaration by the six African delegations, Qasim az-Zuhayri then spoke about the work of the committees, particularly the political and information affairs committee which is headed by al-Arabi al-Khattabi.

[Az-Zuhayri--begin recording] With regard to the Political and Information Affairs Committee, it met at noon today and began work by electing its officers. It then started debating the items on its agenda. The committee has studied several issues, including the Middle East question, the Palestinian issue, the question of Jerusalem, the question of the Jerusalem Committee, the Jerusalem Fund, the question of the Turkish community in Cyprus, the question of Zionism and racial discrimination, and the position of the ISLAMIC NEWS AGENCY. After that, the committee discussed the situation in Uganda and the position of the Ugandan refugees in the Sudan. It also studied the question of supporting the states which do not have nuclear weapons and the question of setting up nuclear-free zones in Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. It also studied the draft Law of the Sea and establishment of a committee of jurists of the Islamic world. Then it studied the question of Muslims in the southern Philippines. With regard to all these problems, I have mentioned that fruitful exchanges of views took place among the members. It was evident there was general agreement on these issues.

Pakistan Introduces Proposals

BK100356 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0100 GMT 10 May 79 BK

[Text] Pakistan has appealed for inclusion of two new issues on the agenda of the Islamic foreign ministers conference, now meeting in the Moroccan city of Fez.

In one of the proposals, Pakistan has asked for establishment of a world commission of legal experts from Islamic countries. In the second proposal, measures have been formulated for creating a better understanding of Islamic ideas, especially in Western countries.

Syrian Foreign Minister's Statement

JN100756 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 May 79 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has asserted that the decision of the Islamic foreign ministers conference suspending Egypt's membership has greatly helped the Egyptian people's struggle against the regime which has sold Egypt, betrayed the Arabs and relinquished all Islamic values.

In press statements in Fez last night, Khaddam said that the Arab nation collectively approved this stand in Baghdad during the Arab summit conference and during the meetings of the Arab foreign and economy ministers. The Arab nation, Khaddam added, also adopted crucial resolutions that showed the lack of confidence of Arabism in Egypt, which has reconciled with the Zionist enemy and given up the Palestinian cause and Arab rights.

Khaddam added: As-Sadat has opted for Begin rather than for the Arab leaders; he has deserted the Arabs for Dayan and Weizman. Khaddam said that the Islamic conference has exposed the Egyptian Government and unveiled this government's deviation from Islam and As-Sadat's defamation of Islam when he ordered Shaykh al-Azhar to meet Begin at the airport.

SAUDI ARABIA REPORTEDLY TO HOST NEXT ISLAMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE

JN091800 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1730 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Fez, Morocco, 9 May--The GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Fez cites Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal as saying that Saudi Arabia has agreed to host a summit conference for the Islamic states in Mecca at the beginning of the 15th-century Hegira [current year is 1399 Hegira].

The Saudi foreign minister said: The member-states of the Islamic states' foreign ministers conference have asked the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to host a summit conference. Saudi Arabia has welcomed the convening of this conference, which will bring the leaders of the Islamic countries together in Mecca to celebrate the beginning of the 15th-century Hegira.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal did not cite a specific date for the conference, which will discuss formulation of a strategy to strengthen Islamic solidarity against the challenges facing the Islamic nation posed by the Zionist defiance, particularly the Zionist tampering with the sanctities of Islam in holy Jerusalem.

An Islamic states' foreign ministers conference held in Tripoli in 1977 had recommended convening an Islamic summit conference at the beginning of the 15th-century Hegira.

OPENING SESSION OF OAFEC MEETING IN KUWAIT

LD091156 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The Ministerial Council of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries, OAFEC, began its 22d meeting today in the Sheraton Hotel, attended by the petroleum ministers of the nine member-states or their representatives.

The meeting started with a closed session headed by Libyan Petroleum Minister 'Izz ad-Din al-Mabruk in his capacity as the present chairman of OAFEC. The conference agenda includes a report drawn by a committee of experts on proposed bases for a joint Arab policy for refining oil, and another report about the crystalization of bases for dialog between OAFEC and the European Common Market.

The KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY has quoted conference sources as saying that the ministers in their meetings may turn to debating the extend of the European Common Market countries' readiness to accept Arab oil products in return for supplying the Arab oil-producing countries with modern technology.

PLO'S HANI AL-HASAN DISCUSSES PALESTINIAN, IRANIAN REVOLUTIONS

LD081523 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 4 May 79 pp 3, 32 LD

[Interview granted by Hani al-Hasan, PLO representative in Tehran, to Huda al-Husayni in Tehran--date not given]

[Excerpts] My meeting with Hani al-Hasan took place at the Palestine news agency--Wafa--office in Tehran as the calm of the Tehran night was being disturbed by sporadic shooting, which reminded me of Beirut's "calm" nights.

Hani al-Hasan, one of the PLO's most prominent leaders and adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, answered my questions with great calm and clarity. He spoke of the Iranian revolution with great joy and confidence and of the Palestinian revolution--which he describes as "the fire that burns the finger of whoever plays with it"--with optimism.

Hani al-Hasan's name is frequently mentioned in Tehran. He has become a kind of adviser to many Iranian parties--Islamic, democratic and leftist.

At the beginning, Hani al-Hasan's office was in the government headquarters premises but the rush by the Iranian young men to volunteer to defend Palestine has forced him to move to Wafa's offices until work is completed on the former Israeli Embassy which has become known as the "Palestine Embassy."

The following is the text of the interview with Hani al-Hasan:

AL-HAWADITH: Yasir 'Arafat has said that Iran is better for us than certain Arab countries. How far do you rely on Iran's support for the Arab and the Palestinian cause?

Al-Hasan: Of course, Yasir 'Arafat was right in saying this. How, for example, can we compare As-Sadat's Egypt and Iran? Iran has broken its relations with Israel while As-Sadat recognized it. Iran has stopped oil supplies to Israel while he sells oil. Iran wants to declare war on Israel while As-Sadat has signed a peace treaty with it. Therefore, Yasir 'Arafat's words are true. As for counting on Iran's support for the Palestinian problem, the best thing that the Iranian revolution has offered us is that it toppled the shah's regime and, consequently, Iran has turned from a sword poised over the Arabs' neck into a sword supporting them. There is no doubt that Iran has to choose between two things: Either it will ally itself with major powers or it will rely on itself. I do not think that alliance with major powers is under consideration. The alliance with the United States as it existed before has ended and cannot possibly be restored. Nor do I believe that the question of alliance with the Soviet Union as a defense ally is under consideration although there would be good-neighborly relations. I believe that because of its new revolutionary ideology Iran is that it toppled the shah's regime and, consequently, Iran has turned from a sword poised over the Arabs' neck into a sword supporting them. There is no doubt that Iran has to choose between two things: Either it will ally itself with major powers or it will rely on itself. I do not think that alliance with major powers is under consideration. The alliance with the United States as it existed before has ended and cannot possibly be restored. Nor do I believe that the question of alliance with the Soviet Union as a defense ally is under consideration although there would be good-neighborly relations. I believe that because of its new revolutionary ideology Iran is compelled to establish relations with its neighbors in order to erect a self-defense barrier. Consequently, having chosen a revolutionary course, Iran has to join the nonaligned group and establish a front with the Arabs who agree to do so.

AL-HAWADITH: Are you speaking from the position of a man who is well-informed or a man running Iran's political affairs?

AL-Hasan: No, I am speaking on the basis of logical analysis and of this experience which has given me the opportunity to get to know the thinking of those managing Iran's current political affairs. This is the logic of things. It is true that certain politicians do not realize the consequences of what they say but some of these are not in the first rank.

AL-HAWADITH: Who are those in the first rank?

Al-Hasan: Khomeyni, for example. Also Taleghani and Montazari.

AL-HAWADITH: That is the religious men only.

Al-Hasan: Power at present is still in the hands of these people and the future is being decided by them. Therefore, we can rely a great deal on Iran and on the future of Arab-Iranian relations in this regard.

AL-HAWADITH: Some people accuse you of trying to "exploit" Iran in order to bring pressure to bear on the Arab countries.

Al-Hasan: It is the nature of the Palestinian revolution to reject exploitation and gambling. We backed Iran and stood with it when everybody else thought that the shah would not collapse. We stood with the Iranian people and Imam Khomeyni's leadership. Had Khomeyni been defeated, many Arab regimes would have dealt severely with us. Now that our bet has been won we cannot but go all the way in benefiting from it, which was also a bet on principles. As I said in my previous answer, we are not daydreamers but believe in practical activities in order to get things moving. The dictatorship in Iran has collapsed and it is now our task to see how we can move with Iran into the battle of confronting imperialism. This move is not an easy one because following the downfall of a regime another regime must be built. In the process of building, forces are bound to emerge that want to distinguish between building a new regime and confronting imperialist forces outside Iran. Therefore, the Palestinians have hastened to exert all their efforts to insure that Iran will realize that these two battles cannot be separated. In our contemporary world there is a dynamic and dialectical relationship between battles abroad and battles at home. Therefore, when Dr Karim Sanjabi, whom I consider a close friend of the Palestinian people, tried to discuss the Palestinian revolution's material needs we refused to get involved in such a discussion because what is more important is that we should believe in the need to enter the battle against imperialism simultaneously with fighting our domestic battles.

We would then achieve a great gain. Those who adopted a wait-and-see attitude toward the Iranian revolution are not aware of the efforts that were made in order to bring about the Iranian victory, and those who contributed to these efforts know how important and valuable it is to sacrifice so that this effort will not be lost. Iran is not just 35 million people whom the Palestinian revolution has won over to its side. Iran is in a strategic position. It is the Arabs' rear just as Turkey is. It is the principal base in the U.S. Middle East strategy.

Israel, Iran, Ethiopia and Turkey were the four principal mainstays in U.S. strategy. Ethiopia has collapsed and so has Iran. Turkey will change and, as a consequence, the final stage of the defeat of Israel will begin.

AL-HAWADITH: Are you wagering on change in Turkey?

Al-Hasan: I believe that Turkey is undoubtedly heading for a change. The Turkish people have begun to realize that Zionism is in control of the textiles industry and many basic industries in Turkey. The Muslim Turkish people cannot possibly accept that the Israeli flag should continue to be flown in Istanbul while no PLO office has been opened there. The whole area has begun to realize that the Zionists are the enemies.

Everybody is favoring the Palestinian revolution's struggle and has begun to realize that a new era has emerged, an era in which the Palestinians will come in and the Israelis will go out. I am confident that our flag will be flown in the place of the Israeli flag in Turkey in the not too distant future.

AL-HAWADITH: Going back to Iran, will the PLO play a role in settling the disputes between Iran and the Arab countries such as the question of the islands and gulf security?

Al-Hasan: We in the PLO and in the Fatah movement cannot forget that we are Arabs and that our hostility to the shah was not only because he pursued an imperialist policy but also because he sought to commit aggression on Arab soil and in the Arab homeland. The PLO will do all it can to establish Arab-Iranian relations that will develop into a front against imperialism and Israel. But frankly we must be logical. We cannot persuade Iran to befriend those who do not wish to fight imperialism; nor would we persuade her to befriend those who do not wish to fight Israel. We are nationalists and care for the Arab soil. I believe that the Arab fighter, and the Palestinian in particular, will do his duty in every part of the Arab homeland for the sake of defending this land. What is required is an alliance with Iran against Israel and the imperialist forces in the area. I do not think that this is a difficult thing to achieve because the nature of the new Iranian regime is not aggressive and is ideological in character. The winds of this ideological character will blow on the gulf in particular because the gulf speaks the same ideological language.

AL-HAWADITH: It has been reported that 150 SAVAK agents were flown from the Gulf of Iran with your knowledge and that the gulf rulers turned a blind eye to this.

Al-Hasan: I do not know if the gulf rulers turned a blind eye but I have heard something to this effect. In any case, you must ask an Iranian official to confirm or deny the story. I believe that such an action would clear the area of SAVAK agents who are primarily agents of Israeli intelligence and the CIA. I can assure you that there is now a reorganization of the Israeli groups with the SAVAK.

These are being asked to carry out sabotage operations inside Iran because the Israelis want the Iranians to feel that the cost of their recognition of Palestinians is very high.

AL-HAWADITH: It is being said in Tehran circles that you are exerting extraordinary efforts to bring the Soviets and Imam Khomeyni together and that you personally were behind the meeting between the Soviet ambassador and Khomeyni. Can you explain this to us? Why was the Soviet ambassador's meeting not with Prime Minister Bazargan?

Al-Hasan: I believe that if Iran wants to stand against imperialism it must establish good relations with the Soviet Union and that, geopolitically, Iran cannot fail to establish good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union.

We do not interfere in Iran's domestic affairs but we are greatly satisfied with the growth of the Iranian-Soviet relations, particularly because, through the Iranian revolution, the Soviets have achieved a significant success, namely the ousting of U.S. experts from Iran. They also got rid of the monitoring installations and the U.S. arms which the Americans stockpiled in Iran for use at the opportune moment. Therefore, I believe that the Iranian Government and leadership are well aware of these matters.

The Soviet ambassador spoke to me with admiration about what a religious leader (not Imam Khomeyni) told him. He said to him: You and us are close to each other. We together have toppled dictatorships and we together have faced imperialist interference in our territories. In the final analysis, both you and we are from the east and not from the west.

I believe that this is an indication of awareness of the equation. In any case, how could great men who brought about a revolution in our era similar to the French Revolution not be aware of these matters? It is impossible.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH LEBANESE PREMIER

JN091335 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1115 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, met with Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss last night. The meeting was attended by brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee; brother Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah Central Committee and of the General Command of the Al-'Asifah Forces; and brother Abu al-Walid, commander of the central operations of the joint forces.

They discussed the local and Arab situation and the repeated Zionist aggression against the Lebanese civilian population and Palestinian refugee camps.

Brother Abu 'Ammar yesterday also received Kamal Shati, secretary general of the Lebanese Nationalist and Patriotic Front. They discussed the statements by the terrorist Begin attacking the Palestinian revolution, Lebanon and Syria.

PLO CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER CALLS FOR U.S. BOYCOTT

JN091624 Doha QNA in Arabic 1545 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 9 May--PLO Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas--alias Abu Mazin--has said that what is happening in Lebanon was expected. Its purpose is to peddle the Egyptian-Israeli agreement and preoccupy the other parties concerned--particularly the Palestinian revolution and Syria, as well as the other Arab states opposing the agreement--with peripheral issues.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Amman today, Mahmud 'Abbas expressed his belief that Lebanon will not be the only place in the area where the United States will bring the situation to a head. He did not rule out the possibility that the hostile forces will cause trouble to Syria.

Abu Mazin affirmed that Lebanon can stand fast and endure Zionist pressures as long as it enjoys Arab support. He also expressed the PLO leaders' appreciation of the enormous pressures to which the Palestinian people in the occupied land are being subjected.

Abu Mazin hailed the Islamic states' foreign ministers conference decision to suspend Egypt's membership. He added, however, that what is required of the Arabs and Muslims is not only to boycott Egypt but to boycott the United States as well, for it is behind these agreements and is playing the most prominent role in ignoring the Palestinian people's rights.

BAHRAIN

AMIR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SOMALI PRESIDENT

JN091211 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1005 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 9 May--Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre dealing with bilateral relations and recent developments in the Arab world following the Egyptian-Zionist treaty. The message also discusses the situation in the African Horn. The message was conveyed to the Bahraini amir this morning when he received Omar Arteh Ghalib, Somali minister of the presidency and personal adviser to President Mohamed Siad Barre. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and acting prime minister, and Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, minister of interior.

Ghalib Departs

JN091500 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1440 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Manama, 9 May--Omar Arteh Ghalib, Somali minister of the presidency and special adviser to President Mohamed Siad Barre, left Manama today for Qatar at the end of a 1-day visit to Bahrain. During his stay, Omar Ghalib delivered a written message from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre to Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, on bilateral relations, current Arab developments, the present situation in the Horn of Africa, and issues of common interest.

OMAN

YAR PRESIDENT'S ADVISER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR SULTAN

JN091849 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1750 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Muscat, 9 May--Lt Col 'Abdallah Husayn Barakai, adviser to YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, arrived here this evening on a visit to Oman. He will convey a message from the YAR president to Omani Sultan Qabus. Muscat Radio, which reported this today, did not elaborate on the contents of the message.

QATAR

ERITREAN OFFICIAL ENDS 3-DAY VISIT

JN091349 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Doha, 9 May--Ibrahim Mahmud, chief of the Foreign Information Section of the Eritrean Liberation Front, left Doha today for Beirut following a 3-day visit to Qatar within a tour of countries of the area. In a predeparture statement to a QNA correspondent, Ibrahim Mahmud said that while in Doha he conveyed a message from Osman Saleh Sabe, chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front, the Popular Liberation Forces, to Qatari officials. He added that the message discusses recent developments in Eritrea and the struggle of the Eritrean people to regain their legitimate rights.

Ibrahim Mahmud said that he learned that the Qatari officials fully understand the circumstances facing the Eritrean struggle. He called on the Arab countries to offer further support to the Eritrean people in all possible fields so that the Eritrean revolution can overcome these difficult circumstances and enable the Eritrean people to achieve national independence.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON BEGIN'S THREATS

JN091033 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 9 May--Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi defense and aviation minister, reiterated his country's belief that a comprehensive peace must be based on justice, restoration of Arab Jerusalem and the regaining of all Palestinian rights.

Speaking to AR-RIYADH daily today, Prince Sultan said regarding Begin's threats to strike at the heart of Saudi Arabia: We, not Begin, are the ones who will decide when the battle is to start. We are the ones who will choose the appropriate time for the battle if all the peace efforts currently being made within the framework of the UN and Arab summit resolutions fail.

The Saudi leader reiterated his country's concern about further strengthening its army. He said: Sophisticated weapons, advanced technology and intensive training are capable of developing and strengthening the Saudi Army.

YAR DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES

LDO91000 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0847 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--This morning His Excellency Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, deputy prime minister of the YAR, arrived in Riyadh on a visit to the kingdom for a few days. He was received at the airport by a representative of the Office of Royal Protocol.

UAE

MINISTER SETS CONDITIONS FOR OAPEC-EEC DIALOG

JN091302 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0905 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 May--The Abu Dhabi daily AL-ITTIHAD reports today that a positive Arab step is imminent on the international level to further support the Palestine cause. This step, AL-ITTIHAD adds, will be taken during the 22d session of the OAPEC Ministerial Council which is due to open in Kuwait today.

Speaking to an AL-ITTIHAD correspondent, UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah said that among the most important issues on the OAPEC Ministerial Council's agenda is resumption of the dialog between OAPEC and the EEC. Dr al-'Utaybah added that resumption of this dialog will be conditional on the EEC's recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said that the PLO must be considered a full partner in any efforts that may be made to achieve a settlement in the Middle East.

He added: Because of the mutual interests of OAPEC and the EEC, it is extremely important that this condition be met, particularly since the world community has granted the PLO observer status at the UN General Assembly.

Dr al-'Utaybah said: We highly evaluate the statements made by some European officials which stress that arriving at a solution to the Palestine question is an integral part of any just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Zionist conflict. However, we are still waiting for the Europeans to translate words into deeds and to recognize the PLO. Until this happens, there will be no dialog with the EEC.

Dr al-'Utaybah emphasized that the dialog between OAPEC and the EEC is important for both sides. He said: The EEC is asked to make serious efforts and to participate in the search for new energy sources. Moreover, these countries are requested to contribute to supplying the OAPEC members in particular and the developing countries in general with modern technology so that these countries can further develop their natural resources and provide new energy sources.

Dr al-'Utaybah added that the industrialized world must realize that oil is a precious resource which should be made available for proper uses, particularly for the food industry and petrochemicals. "This resource should not be misused or wasted," al-'Utaybah said, "especially since the time will come when the entire world will regret the waste of the oil unless efforts are made to find and develop other sources of energy."

Talking about the OAPEC Ministerial Council meetings due to begin in Kuwait today, Dr al-'Utaybah said: The OAPEC Ministerial Council will discuss the various issues on its agenda and will review steps already taken to draw up a unified Arab policy regarding oil refining, establishing the Arab Institute for Training, and electing a general director for this institute. The council will also discuss the election of a new assistant secretary general of the OAPEC Ministerial Council.

Replying to a question about the possibility of boycotting the SUMED pipeline, which carries some 1.6 million barrels of oil daily from the Red Sea to Alexandria on the Mediterranean, the UAE oil minister said: This question will not be discussed by OAPEC. It will be discussed by the countries who own the pipeline--Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE.

Dr al-'Utaybah left Abu Dhabi for Kuwait early this morning to attend the OAPEC Ministerial Council meetings which are to open today.

JORDANIAN MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT

JN091050 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 May--Jordanian Minister of Court 'Amir Khammash arrived in Abu Dhabi today on a 1-day visit to the UAE. Speaking on arrival at Abu Dhabi airport, Minister Khammash said that he is carrying a message from Jordanian King Husayn to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nahayyan. He explained that the message deals with bilateral relations and current Arab developments.

ANOTHER PART OF ADF CONTINGENT RETURNS FROM LEBANON

JN091719 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1655 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 9 May--A new group of our armed forces participating in the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Lebanon arrived in the UAE by land at noon today.

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ARABIAN PENINSULA

The last group of the UAE forces participating in the ADF will arrive in the UAE tomorrow, commanded by Staff Lt Col 'Ali an-Nayim. A celebration will be held in the Al Nuhayyan camp tomorrow evening.

YEMEN--PDRY

AKHIR SA'AH: INCREASING CUBAN, SOVIET PRESENCE IN PDRY

NC090928 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0806 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May--The weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH reveals today that according to reports from Aden, the number of Cuban forces and Soviet experts and advisers in Aden has increased in the wake of recent fighting on the border between the two Yemens.

The magazine says that the total number of these forces now is 8,000 experts, officers and soldiers. It adds that Polish and Czechoslovak ships bring large quantities of weapons to the port of Aden. These weapons are then transported to (Khawr Maksar, Jabal Madid) and (Bad as-Salb). Aden airport is closed at night to enable the landing of huge planes that bring arms and supplies to the Cuban forces and Soviet and East German experts.

YEMEN--YAR

EMISSARY LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA WITH MESSAGE FOR KHALID

JN091327 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, left San'a' today for Saudi Arabia to deliver a message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Aziz of Saudi Arabia.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that the message deals with bilateral relations and the current situation in the area.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT TO TOUR PROVINCES BEGINNING 10 MAY

NC080641 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 May 79 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat will visit the Governorate of Kafr ash-Shaykh this Thursday at the start of a tour of the governorates of lower Egypt. The Governorate of Kafr ash-Shaykh has made preparations to receive the leader and president, who will be paying his first visit to the governorate. At the beginning of his tour, the president will lay the cornerstone for the beet sugar factory in the area of Az-Zawiyah. This is a joint Egyptian-French project and is considered the biggest food security project in the province. It costs \$126 million.

The president will then inspect the fish farm in the Az-Zawiyah area. From there he will go to the city of Kafr ash-Shaykh where he will ride in an open car in the city's streets on his way to the areas of Sakha and Mahallat Musa where he will inspect the food security projects, including the wheat experimental fields and the use of agricultural machinery in the sowing of rice and in the storage and sowing of wheat. He will then inspect the cattle breeding projects. The president will afterward go to the conference hall in the governorate where he will attend the political and popular rally and speak to the leaderships on the program for the coming phase. On Friday morning, the president will proceed to the city of Disuq where he will perform the Friday prayers.

GHALI CLAIMS FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE DIFFICULT

NC100937 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0725 GMT 10 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 10 May--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the forthcoming negotiations between Egypt and Israel--with U.S. participation--on self-rule for the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza will be more difficult than previous ones because they deal with the Palestinian people's future and with Israel's ambitions on this territory. Israel has recently resorted to interpretations that are different from that which have been agreed upon.

The minister of state for foreign affairs explained in an interview with AL-JUMHURIYAH that Egypt has prepared studies on these negotiations that are based on the principle that the Palestinian authority must enjoy all the internationally recognized powers of self-rule. He said that the Camp David agreement on the framework for comprehensive peace in the Middle East provides for the establishment of full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza on the following bases:

1. Election of the Palestinian autonomous authority.
2. As soon as elections take place, the Israeli military government and its civil authority will withdraw.
3. Israeli forces will withdraw, and the remaining forces will relocate in specific security positions.
4. A strong Palestinian police force will be formed, and a 5-year transitional period will begin during which the Palestinian authority will assume a dual responsibility: In domestic affairs, it will administer the West Bank and Gaza; in foreign affairs, it will take part in the negotiations with the United States, Egypt and Israel, which will determine the final status of the West Bank and Gaza on the basis of both Security Council Resolution 242 and of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and just demands.

Regarding the recent Israeli interpretations of self-rule and its claim that this pertains to people, not land, Dr Butrus Ghali said that international law interprets self-rule as a period of preparation for the right to self-determination; in this sense, self-rule is a transitional stage toward achieving this right, followed by the stage of independence.

He added that self-determination is an expression of the people's will and it is therefore natural that those who exercise this will are people, since land cannot exercise such will. The people's exercise of their will and self-determination takes place within a region; it is unimaginable that people could exercise their self-determination in a vacuum.

Dr Butrus Ghali pointed out that certain Arab states in the rejectionist front such as Iraq, Syria and Algeria, as well as Tunisia, have gone through the experiment of autonomy during the British and French mandates, and then achieved their independence. This was the case with most of the African states that received their independence, and it will be the case for the Palestinian people as well.

The minister of state for foreign affairs affirmed that autonomy on which agreement was reached was based on the UN Charter and on international law, and it will lead to self-determination and then to the independence we are seeking for the Palestinian people.

Dr Butrus Ghali said in conclusion that the recent Israeli statements on this subject are for local consumption and represent an attempt to encourage the sterile Arab rejectionist forces--which have seemingly entered into an alliance with the Israeli rejectionist forces--to hinder the Palestinian people's march toward self-determination and independence.

GHALI DISCUSSES WEST BANK TALKS IN AKHIR SA'AH INTERVIEW

NC091130 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has reaffirmed that Egypt's unswerving position at the coming peace negotiations will be based on a set of principles, first and foremost of which is that the transitional period should be aimed at "guarantees for the peaceful transfer of authority to the sons of the Palestinian people" and at helping them establish their political institutions so that they can determine their own fate. Other principles are: the absolute necessity that the elected Palestinian council should enjoy all powers of full autonomy; the necessity of holding internationally-supervised Palestinian elections for the membership of the National Council; and the fact that the region of the West Bank and Gaza includes "all the villages and cities occupied by Israel in 1967, including East Jerusalem, to which Arab sovereignty must be restored."

In an interview published today by the AKHIR SA'AH magazine, Dr Butrus Ghali deals with the preparations made by the Egyptian negotiator for establishing autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza. Doctor Ghali says: There is a tripartite committee led by Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and composed of Defense Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and myself. At this time, the committee is preparing the detailed Egyptian position to be taken at the negotiations so that it can be submitted to his excellency President Anwar as-Sadat for approval. This committee is being assisted by a number of organs operating in the various political, technical, legal and other areas.

Asked what would happen if the Security Council did not consent to the deployment of UN emergency forces on the border between Egypt and Israel in implementation of the treaty, Doctor Ghali said that Egypt could not see a responsible state's taking a position before history at the Security Council that could only be explained as an attempt to hamper Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories. However, if some quarters elect to take such a position, then Egypt will complete the peaceful liberation of its territories because the peace march will continue regardless of the obstacles some quarters try to place in its path.

FOREIGN MINISTRY PREPARES PAPER ON FORTHCOMING TALKS

NC091605 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1506 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May--The Foreign Ministry has completed preparing a working paper on Egypt's position and policy in the negotiations on the Palestinian issue. These negotiations are due to begin before the end of this month between Egypt and Israel.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today held a long meeting with ministry experts and counsellors to review the Egyptian paper in preparation for its submission to the committee for the negotiations, which is scheduled to hold its first meeting tomorrow under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil.

MENA has learned that the working paper contains Egypt's policy on full autonomy in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the measures which will precede and follow the autonomy.

MENA has also learned that Egypt's position centers on the need for complete abidance by the framework for comprehensive peace in the Middle East, which was signed last September. It also centers on the need to enable the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to govern themselves through their elected representatives and to enable them after the transitional period to exercise their right to decide their fate and future.

DEFENSE MINISTER ADDRESS TO RESERVE OFFICER GRADUATES

NC091530 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 9 May--Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that in 2 weeks Egypt will regain an area of beloved Sinai. This will be the first step in the implementation of the peace treaty. He said that the other stages of implementation will follow in the coming months until the Egyptian flag flies over our Egyptian and Arab territory in Sinai, realizing a successful step toward a comprehensive settlement and abiding by the Arab strategic aims. These aims assert that there can be no relinquishment of Arab territory and no discussion about sovereignty over it.

In a speech--delivered on his behalf today by Maj Gen Ahmad 'Abd al-Ghaffar Hijazi, assistant defense minister and chief of the training branch, at a ceremony marking the graduation of a new group from the reserve officers college--the defense minister said there is no alternative to peace as a strategic aim; it is a positive, progressive, clever and courageous move. Through peace the Arab rights would be preserved and the territory regained. He affirmed that Egypt will continue on its path and will not stop its march on the road to just and permanent peace in order to provide security and prosperity to all the peoples of the region.

AL-BAZ SAYS CURRENT ARAB DIFFERENCES TEMPORARY

NCO91313 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] The Egyptian committee for the negotiations on full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza will hold its first meeting at noon tomorrow under Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil.

Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz has stated that the ministry has prepared comprehensive studies for submission to the committee. He said that Egypt believes that an autonomous Palestinian government having executive, legislative and judicial duties must be established in the West Bank and Gaza to replace the Israeli military authority--a belief that Egypt is basing on the provisions of the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty.

Dr Usamah al-Baz said the countries that Vice President Husni Mubarak recently visited showed understanding of and support for the Egyptian position, which abides by the Arab national aims, and that these states believed that the active Egyptian movement was the key for achieving progress in the Arab arena.

Concluding his statement, Dr Usamah al-Baz said that Egypt does not want to polarize anyone or rally supporters against an Arab position because it feels that these Arab differences are temporary. Egypt is working for continued world support for the Palestinian issue, particularly as it is entering negotiations on establishing Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza.

AL-JAMMA ASSAILS SAUDI ARABIA, REJECTIONIST STATES

LDO91051 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 4 May 79 pp 1, 3 LD

[Chief editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal article: "Leadership Is Not Bought With Money or Imposed by Terror"]

[Excerpts] How has the Palestinian problem benefited from the decision by many Arab countries to sever diplomatic relations with Egypt? They have all taken this step while knowing full well that it will not halt the peace process to which Egypt has led the way nor will it put back the hands of the clock. Why, therefore, do they nevertheless take this step although they know that this is a negative decision which will have no effect?

Every one of the countries that went along with the rejectionist states had its reason for following this course that will lead to nowhere. In fact, this step will put them in a dilemma from which they will find no way out.

The Saudi Arabian Kingdom, as President as-Sadat explained, wanted, through its decision to sever relations with Egypt, to avoid Iraqi Ba'thist terror and Syrian Ba'thist conspiracies. It also wanted to buy their silence with money. This is on the one hand. On the other hand, in past years, particularly since the October War, Saudi Arabia has lived like a bride on a honeymoon; everybody has been pampering it, seeking favors from it and trying to please it. This has led Saudi Arabia to imagine that it has become the Arab world leader to the Arabs and to other countries treating it as such.

When President as-Sadat's initiative was launched and the subsequent developments proved that leadership is not a question of wealth and vast funds but rather that leadership has many values among which wealth does not figure, the Saudi position was shaken, lost ground and became contradiction.

That was because what President as-Sadat did was not contrary to Saudi Arabia's declared and undeclared policy, but it did cut the ground from under the Saudi throne's hegemonic leadership and proved to the world Egypt's worth, ability and strength despite its limited material resources.

The most recent example of the fact that leadership is not bought with money is Saudi Arabia's submission to the At-Tikriti [Iraq] Ba'th Party and the 'Alawite [Syrian] Ba'th Party. Despite all the money it owns--much of which it gives to Syria--Saudi Arabia has been unable to stand up to Ba'thist terror or to express at the conferences of terror [Baghdad summits] its real views regarding what was happening within and outside these conferences.

Following the Iranian revolution, Saudi Arabia sought the assistance of U.S. planes in order to protect itself. The Iraqi and Syrian propaganda mouthpieces attacked Saudi Arabia violently but Saudi Arabia could not find a single word to say in reply. Instead, it hastened to buy their silence with money. Is this the attitude of a state that wants to lead the Arab world?

There is another fact which must state unequivocally. This is: Where was Saudi Arabia when Anwar as-Sadat took office in Egypt? Who heard its voice then? Nobody. At that time Saudi Arabia lived in seclusion; it had no role or influence on the Arab political life except the material support that it used to give to the confrontation states.

As-Sadat then went on to give back Saudi Arabia its rightful position and to open the door for it so that it could play its role in the Arab community. In those days King Faysal with his strong personality played an important role in restoring for Saudi Arabia its political weight without any of those rulers in Baghdad, Damascus or Tripoli daring to utter a word.

As-Sadat proceeded to put an end to the segregation of the Arab countries into progressive and reactionary states. He turned them all into a single, closely-knit family loving one another. The real reason behind the hostility of Libya's madman toward Egypt was Egypt's refusal to sever relations with Saudi Arabia and the gulf states. Egypt refused to agree with Al-Qadhdhafi's views toward these countries.

I must also ask here: Why did we not hear a single voice raised in Saudi Arabia against the audacity with which Hafiz al-Asad spoke of what is happening in southern Lebanon? The Syrian president said that the task and responsibility of saving southern Lebanon falls on the Lebanese Army. Can there be any greater audacity than this? Is there any more obvious a sign of impotence, than that of Syria which has caused Lebanon's destruction and division? Nevertheless, Syria is asking the Lebanese Army to defend the south and fight Israel alone.

We then come to Iran. Iran went along with the rejectionist countries and severed relations with Egypt. Is this all that is required of the new Iranian regime--to sever relations with Egypt and cut off oil supplies to Israel?

Is this sufficient in order to support the Palestinians and to restore the Palestinians people's rights in full?

[Text] Let us read what the Iranian magazine AL-FIRDAWS said. The magazine stated: We urge the PLO not to create problems that might harm relations between the Iranian government and people on one hand, and the Palestinian people on the other.

We regret the statements that were made by some Palestinian officials in which they exaggerated the importance of the PLO's assistance to the Iranian revolution and which they considered decisive in the revolution's success.

The magazine also expressed reservations regarding the PLO's offices, particularly in Khuzistan, and said that the existence of Palestinian military groups training Iranians in weaponry is a matter that needs to be studied.

What do these words mean?

They frankly mean that the Palestinian revolution must not expect any more from the Iranian revolution than it has done so far.

This was the major gain that the PLO accrued from the Iranian revolution and this is all that it should expect from it, namely the severance of its relations with Egypt.

I also believe that this is all that the PLO can expect from the Arab countries that have severed relations with Egypt.

INDUSTRY MINISTER 'AYISH RECEIVES YUGOSLAV DELEGATION

JN091128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1104 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--Muhammad 'Ayish, Revolution Command Council members and minister of industry and minerals, met here today with Milanko Renovica, president of the Executive Council of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina. During the meeting they discussed industrial cooperation between the two friendly countries and the possibility of strengthening this cooperation in the interests of the two peoples.

Renovica, Ramadan Meeting

JN091420 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council [RCC] member and minister of public works and housing, received Milanko Renovica, president of the Executive Council of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, here today. The discussion during the meeting centered on aspects of bilateral cooperation in the area of constructing investment projects and on means of developing this cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The RCC member stressed the need to increase bilateral cooperation in all fields in ways that are compatible with the traditional relations between them, particularly as both countries are active members in the nonaligned group. Ramadan called upon Yugoslav companies and establishments to participate in implementing major projects in Iraq and to exchange expertise in order to strengthen the existing relations between the two friendly countries.

The head of the Yugoslav delegation emphasized the importance of developing bilateral cooperation in all fields, commensurate with the nature of the good relations between them.

He added that President Tito's visit earlier this year and his talks with President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, Saddam Husayn and Iraqi officials contributed to deepening the ties of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries and between the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, as well as to consolidating joint efforts in building socialism and in confronting the challenges of imperialism and colonialism.

Renovica, Ibrahim Meeting

JN091848 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 May--'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member, interior minister and acting defense minister, met here today with Milanko Renovica, president of the Executive Council of the Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

During the meeting, which was attended by the chief of staff of the armed forces, they discussed bilateral relations and means of developing them in the service of the two friendly countries.

Renovica arrived in Baghdad last Saturday on a weeklong visit to Iraq.

PRIME MINISTER BADRAN RECEIVES JERUSALEM GOVERNOR

JN091046 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 9 May 79 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office yesterday Jerusalem Governor Anwar al-Kahtib. During the meeting they discussed a number of topics pertaining to the city of Jerusalem.

EDUCATION MINISTER AL-MAJALI RETURNS TO AMMAN

JN091812 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Excerpt] A Jordanian educational delegation under Education Minister 'Abd as-Salam al-Majali returned to Amman today following a 4-day visit to Syria.

GAZA MAYOR: POPULATION UNDER PRESSURE FROM EGYPT, ISRAEL

JN091452 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 9 May 79 pp 1,16 JN

[By 'Abdallah al-'Utum]

[Text] Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa is currently on a visit of several days to Jordan. AR-RA'Y has interviewed the mayor on various issues and on the purpose of his current visit. Mayor ash-Shawwa said that his visit is connected with the prevailing situation in the occupied territory, particularly the autonomy plan.

The mayor said: I have come to Amman to exchange viewpoints with Jordanian officials and the PLO on the current situation and particularly to inform them of what might happen in the Gaza Strip since Egypt and Israel want to apply the autonomy in the strip first. Asked about the autonomy or local administration concept, Ash-Shawwa said: Egypt calls it self-rule and Israel calls it local administration; that is local self-rule. The Jews say that the autonomy does not apply to the land, but only to the population.

Asked about the real situation in Gaza, Mayor ash-Shawwa said: There is a great deal of confusion, anticipation and fear. As the occupation authority, Israel has all the means for exerting pressure on the citizens to force them to participate in one way or another in the separate peace treaty. Egypt also has a special status that enables it to make promises and put pressure on the population. For instance, there are 10,000 students from the Gaza Strip in Egypt. Moreover, many Gaza merchants live in Cairo and other Egyptian cities. We have heard insinuations that Egypt intends to pay the wage of all the employees of the Egyptian administration in Gaza retroactively from 1967. Such a decision will affect 9,000 families. For its part, Israel is hinting that it is employing 70,000 registered workers from Gaza, in addition to 30,000 others who are not registered. It has hinted that it could prevent all these workers from working in Israel.

Mayor ash-Shawwa continued: Gaza is different from the West Bank. We live on an island surrounded by Israel in the north, south, east and west and even from the sea. Imagine, the Israeli fleet is blockading the Gaza coast, fearing arms trafficking. Our fishermen are thus confined to an area of 12 square kms. The water in this area is warm and shallow and as you know, fish are abundant only in deep water.

Regarding Egyptian contacts with West Bank and Gaza leaders, Mayor ash-Shawwa said: I have not received any invitation. I only know the group that met with As-Sadat in Jerusalem. There are no official contacts at present. But this does not preclude future contacts. We have heard rumors that the Egyptians intend to transfer the governor general's administration to Gaza.

Asked about coordination between Gaza and the West Bank municipalities, Mayor ash-Shawwa said: Unfortunately, such coordination does not exist, although we always like to be in touch.

Asked about Arab aid to the Gaza municipality, Ash-Shawwa said: The aid given to Gaza to date is \$2 million from Abu Dhabi and \$10 million from Saudi Arabia. That is all. Yet, the Gaza municipality's financial situation is very bad. We need millions of dollars to develop the strip and meet its requirements. We need to implement the sewerage project, the water project and the road network. As for the power grid, we have only the one built in 1935.

Mayor ash-Shawwa continued: It is said that the handing over [of Al-'Arish] will occur on 25 May, 1979. This is what we read in your paper, AR-RA'Y. After that, the greatest concentration will be on Gaza.

Explaining his view of the current situation, Mayor ash-Shawwa said: The Jews cannot absorb 1,200,000 Palestinians in addition to the 500,000 Palestinians existing there since 1948. They want the West Bank and Gaza to build more settlements. Some 70 percent of the workers in the settlements are Arabs. No matter how unfortunate, they have to do that to earn a living.

Mayor ash-Shawwa concluded by saying: Let us discuss this one point. Let us ask the Americans and the Jews. They say that we are rejecting the autonomy and peace. We have basic rights. If the autonomy insures these legitimate rights, then we will have no objection. Our rights? They are the recognition of our rights as humans: self-determination, which is the right of all peoples, and the suspension of building settlements on our lands. The United States claims that it is biggest democracy in the world and Israel claims that it is the biggest democracy in the Middle East. Yet America and Israel are acting against these claims. Democracy is for the majority and the Palestinian majority says that the PLO is its sole and legitimate representatives. The PLO is qualified, with the means it has, to speak on our behalf. Therefore, why are the United States and Israel opposed to the PLO representing our people? This is the question.

Mayor on 'Twisted Autonomy'

JN091519 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 May 79 pp 1, 19 JN

[By Ahmad Shakir]

[Excerpts] Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa has expressed his condemnation of the current plans on the so-called autonomy. Ash-Shawwa has said that the proposed autonomy is a new name for the Israeli occupation and that it means absolutely nothing.

Ash-Shawwa said that the United States and Israel deny the Palestinian people their representative and that this totally contradicts the democracy they allege to represent.

Ash-Shawwa stresses that the Palestinian people in Gaza have chosen the PLO to represent them in all fields aimed at reaching a just and lasting solution for their problem. The PLO is the only Palestinian organization really qualified to shoulder such responsibility. Ash-Shawwa added that no steps have been taken in Gaza to implement the twisted autonomy. He stressed that the people of Gaza strongly reject the idea and that whoever cooperates with any party to implement such a rule represents no one but himself.

The mayor of Gaza concluded by saying that he will visit Damascus and Beirut to meet with officials, in a bid to become acquainted with Arab plans to confront the present situation.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS TRADE PROTOCOL WITH EGYPT

JN091045 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 9 May 79 p 20 JN

[Text] Amman--The finance minister has advised all customs posts that the bilateral protocol and the Arab common market agreement with Egypt has been suspended as of today. Thus, Egyptian goods will become subject to full duties fees and taxes. Egyptian goods which were shipped or for which credits were established before 25 April 1979 will be exempted.

QNA: COMMITTEE TO MEET WITH PALESTINIANS IN AMMAN 9 MAY

JN081832 Doha QNA in Arabic 1820 GMT 8 May 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 8 May--The Jordanian-Palestinian committee will hold a meeting here tomorrow, Wednesday, to discuss support for the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland in implementation of the Baghdad summit resolutions.

The Jordanian side will be headed by Minister of Information 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, while the Palestinian side will be headed by Hamid Abu Sittah, head of the PLO Occupied Homeland Affairs Department.

ROYAL COURT CHIEF COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH U.S.

JN100910 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 10 May 79 pp 1, 19 JN

[Basim al-Mu'allim dispatch from Washington]

[Excerpts] 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, has stated that the Egyptian-Israeli settlement is a separate settlement and that the treaty is a separate peace treaty. He said: Jordan believes that this step undermines Arab consensus. We have not agreed to it and did not support it because it is opposed to the Arab commitment and to the unified Arab stand.

In an exclusive interview with AD-DUSTUR, 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf said that a just and comprehensive settlement cannot begin with such a step which disregards the facts and crux of the Arab-Israeli conflict, namely, the Palestinian question. Consequently, the aim of such a step is to divide the unity of a committed Arab stand.

The chief of the royal court said that His Majesty King Husayn has advocated that the United Nations should play an effective role in settling the Middle East question. The Security Council should revert to its role of establishing a just and lasting peace, he said.

He asserted that Jordan has worked very hard for the establishment of genuine and durable peace in the area. Our task here, he said, is to clarify our own stand, explain this stand to the various parties, and present to the world a reasonable and correct stand that encompasses an Arab consensus.

Speaking about present U.S. policies, 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf said: I understand from officials here that the United States is formulating its policies and ideas on the forthcoming stage, and that through constant contacts it will be more able to assess the situation in the next stage.

Answering a question on Jordanian-U.S. relations, 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf said: Jordanian-U.S. relations are traditional and established relations that are occasionally marred by differences in view. At the same time there is cooperation in numerous and various spheres. As a result of the recent developments which followed President 'as-Sadat's initiative, especially following the Camp David accords and more especially following the signing of the treaty, there has been tension in Jordanian-U.S. relations. This is due to differences in view on ways to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement. We have warned against the danger of the United States being led to adopt the Israeli point of view which is based on fragmenting the Arab world, freezing the Arab consensus and splitting Arab unity.

At the same time the relations and dialog between Jordan and the United States have not been discontinued. Cooperation continues in other spheres, economic and financial. The political dialog is also continuing. There is agreement on specific issues. This stems from Jordan's (?self-esteem) and nobility on both the national and pan-Arab levels.

Commenting on what is happening in Lebanon, Sharaf said: Lebanon is facing Israeli aggression and an attempt to divide it. If this attempt to fragment Lebanon should succeed then it will pose a great danger for the entire Arab world. The strip bordering Israel is to be used to fragment and divide Lebanon into statelets and to provoke sectarian and regional fanaticisms. The Lebanese situation poses a danger not only for Lebanon but also for the whole Arab world. The Arabs must use sound reason and wisdom to prevent the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon, protect its territorial integrity and restore legality to it.

AR-RA'Y CRITICIZES VANCE STATEMENT ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

JN091153 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 9 May 79 pp 1, 16 JN

[Editorial: "Suspicious Policy of Enticement"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance stressed before the U.S. congressional Foreign Relations Committee yesterday that Israel's withdrawal from Arab territory is still the basis for any settlement in the Middle East in the future. The secretary of state's statement is as vague as it is clear, either out of a fear of the Zionist lobby in the United States or because of a U.S. commitment to support Israel in carrying out its expansionist strategy in the Arab east.

If the settlement which Vance was speaking about would bring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace to the area, there was no reason to stipulate that the Arabs must recognize Israel's right to live in peace within secure and recognized borders. This is true unless the settlement which Vance imagines and describes in elastic phrases--phrases in which he completely ignored the rights of the Palestinian people to their homeland--is distorted and is to be achieved at the expense of Arab territory and the Palestinian people's rights.

We know that politics is the art of the possible. Vance engineered the Paris agreement with Kissinger to end the Vietnamese War on the basis of imposing impossible rules under the pressure of B-52 bombers and reaped total defeat for the U.S. forces in Vietnam. If he again relies on similar rules to establish a belligerent peace in the Middle East, sooner or later the same result as with the Paris agreement will occur. However, the price this time will be a heavy burden for the United States. We must say that Secretary Vance will be making a grave mistake for the future of the Middle East, Israel and also the United States if he insists on imposing a fait accompli and ignoring the crux of the problem in the area.

What is required is a comprehensive peace based on Security Council Resolution 242 and not the settlement Vance is speaking about. This settlement is based on an enticing theory because it provides for returning part of the land to the Arabs in return for relinquishing the basic principles of peace, and in return for showing leniency toward the plot of liquidating the Palestinian question, land, people and rights through negotiations regarding local administrations in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. We had hoped that the U.S. secretary of state, who is more experienced than we in the rules of international peace, would not compound one mistake with an even bigger one.

PAPER LINKS ISRAELI ATTACKS ON LEBANON TO U.S. SUPPORT

JN090803 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 10 May 79 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "The Joint Aggression"]

[Text] The continuing Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon is part of the Israeli plan which is an extension of the Camp David accords; namely, to make every attempt to distract Arab and international attention from what is happening inside occupied Palestine and from the pitfall of self-rule which is planned for it and which is nothing but another name for occupation.

For a long time, Zionist planning has been based on making every attempt--reasonable or unreasonable--to fragment the neighboring area and pave the way for the establishment of racist and sectarian statelets, similar to Israel and its ilk, so that these statelets would form a security fence for Israel and a justification for its continued existence. This is the reason for Israel's concern for Sa'd Haddad's statelet and its indefatigable efforts to support this statelet and to entrench it, even though its foundation is built on sand.

The continued Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon primarily aims to support the statelet of its lackey Sa'd Haddad and consequently to encourage those like Sa'd Haddad to embark on similar divisive steps.

This series of aggression is taking place with the blessing of the United States, which claims to be seeking to establish peace in the Middle East, and with its material and military support. The United States, as its Secretary of State for Defense Harold Brown has said, insists on keeping its flag flying in the area by supplying Israel with arms and war material and by encouraging its aggression. This is clear evidence that Israel's policies in the area are a practical implementation of U.S. desires. Israel is carrying out its aggression with the American weapons, which it has in abundance, while relying on the unlimited political support of the United States. This is the concept of the Israeli aggression, its premise and its objectives. The Arabs must find a way on a pan-Arab level to insure that this joint aggression shall be repulsed.

CABINET ENDS MEETING; SARKIS CENSURES ISRAEL

NC091519 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Excerpt] President Ilyas Sarkis chaired the Cabinet's weekly session at 1115. The session was also attended by Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and the ministers.

The Cabinet meeting lasted until 1400. Opening the meeting, President Sarkis talked about the continuous acts of Israeli aggression currently taking place and expressed his profound pain over the innocent casualties caused by these acts of aggression. The president strongly denounced this aggression, saying it constitutes a blatant defiance of all human laws and rights.

His excellency the president added that the international community and institutions must play a role against these acts. The president reiterated that Lebanon must not be made to bear a burden beyond its capacity because everything that Lebanon suffers from now is a common Arab responsibility. This makes it imperative to draw up a comprehensive plan in order to coordinate efforts and prevent any party from carrying out initiatives with consequences that the Arab countries are incapable of bearing.

The president added: We insist in strong terms that this plan should be drawn up on the condition that every Arab country should shoulder its responsibility in this respect. In this way, these countries will be expressing their complete solidarity with Lebanon.

The president also commented on certain statements made by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, saying: The conflict between the Arab countries and Israel is first and foremost a just and rightful cause because Arab rights are indivisible. The president added that this problem has reached the stage where it cannot be solved unless we take into consideration the fact that the Palestinian problem is the crux of the problem. The Arab-Israeli conflict is one related to a right to holy places, territories and self-determination. If these rights are not respected, how can a just and lasting peace be established? As for Lebanon's borders with Israel, these have never been the subject of argument and are not subject to discussions or argument because these are fixed and internationally recognized borders and any official dealings in the region as well as international relations are based on this fact. This fact is also bolstered by the 1949 truce agreement, official positions of the various large and small countries and the UN and Security Council resolutions and recommendations. It is also bolstered by other international institutions, which indicates the legality and sanctity of these borders and affirms the need for respecting these borders, as well as Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and the safety of its territories.

The president went on to say: If unusual conditions prevail in the vicinity of those borders and other parts of Lebanon, these conditions are but a passing phase that will end immediately when the conditions are suitable.

The president concluded his speech by saying that the other points that came up in the Israeli prime minister's statements are related to Lebanese affairs, concerning the legal authorities only, which should be tackled by these authorities in the light of their tasks and responsibilities. Later, the Cabinet discussed the general security situation, as well as topics related to development, economic and social matters.

VOL REPORTS ISRAELI ARMORED INCURSION IN SOUTH

NC091251 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon is Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Text] This morning some 25 Israeli Sherman tanks crossed the Lebanese border from the direction of the (Hawla) plain. These tanks took up positions inside the border in the towns of Shaqran and Barishiti, where the soldiers searched houses. The tanks withdrew at noon today to the area of (Hawla).

At 1305 today unidentified military planes flew over Beirut's southwestern suburb and over the Sabra and Shatila camps in two successive sorties. Antiaircraft fire was opened on these planes. Meanwhile, Israeli military planes flew over the south at low altitude.

There were different stories over the identity of the military planes over Sabra and Shatila. Some observers said they were Israeli planes, while others said they were Syrian planes. Meanwhile, internal security sources state that so far the two planes have not been positively identified.

AFP CITES UN SPOKESMAN ON REASONS FOR ISRAELI RAID

NC092001 Paris AFP in English 1932 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, May 9 (AFP)--A firm stand by Irish troops of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) forced the Israeli armored unit which penetrated the UNIFIL-controlled village of Shaqra in south Lebanon this morning to withdraw, U.N. spokesman Samir Sambar said here today.

"In the face of the refusal by the Irish blue helmets in charge of the sector to enable them to search houses of the village, the Israelis trebled their strength", he added.

"They had a total of 20 tanks, 27 Jeeps equipped with machineguns, three armored troop carriers and four half-track vehicles", he said.

Mr. Sambar said an Israeli general then intervened to request permission to conduct a joint search for "saboteurs" with the UNIFIL, but that UNIFIL Commander-in-Chief General Emmanuel Erskine turned down the request, warning the Israelis against using force, for which "they would have to assume responsibility".

In the meantime, the U.N. spokesman said, Dutch, Nigerian and Senegalese troops of the UNIFIL were rushed to back up the Irish contingent.

He added that at 1300 local time the U.N. headquarters was informed of the Israeli withdrawal.

CEASE-FIRE DECLARED IN AN-NAB'AH-BURJ HAMMUD

NC091900 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 9 May 79 NC

[Excerpts] This afternoon, intensive efforts were carried out to confine the incidents in An-Nab'Ah-Burj Hammud. A joint meeting was held by representatives of the liberals, the Phalangists and the Dashnag Party. The meeting was held at National Liberal Party headquarters, located in the home of former President Camille Sham'un in Al-Ashrafiyah.

During the meeting, the causes leading to the armed clashes continued last night and today were reviewed. Up to the present, sniping with light and medium weapons is still continuing in the area of An-Naba'Ah-Burj Hammud.

The meeting concluded with a decision to stop the fire in the area of An-Nab'Ah-Burj Hammud. A meeting was later convened at the militias' war council in which Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil and representatives of the Armenians and the liberals participated in order to implement the cease-fire.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS NIGHT INCIDENTS, SHELLING

NC100819 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 10 May 79 NC

[Text] The An-Nab'Ah-Burj Hammud incidents ceased last night and not a single shot was fired following the agreement announced by the commands of the Phalangists, the National Liberal Party and the Dashnag Party. This development followed two meetings held yesterday evening in the house of Former President Camille Sham'un and at the Phalangist war council. Furthermore, work began this morning on the removal of armed manifestations in the area. It turned out that some persons who had penetrated the area had caused the incidents of the past 2 days and disturbed the atmosphere.

During the night the commercial sector was the scene of a series of explosions, and RPG rockets were fired by armed leftists and their Palestinian allies. However, no casualties had been reported until this morning. When sniper fire was being directed toward the Empire Cinema, the Ad-Dabbas Square and As-Sayfi.

In the southern suburbs there were relatively light bursts of fire during the night, following a day of sniper fire activity resulting in the death of Ilyas Jamil Mabrashi. In the western area of the capital some incidents were noted. Some party members in this area extorted money from people, which induced the Syrian force guarding the Libyan Embassy to chase three party members in the area and arrest one of them belonging to the 'Aytani clan.

At around 2000 yesterday, a clash occurred between members of Patah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP]. The clash followed an attempt to occupy a center in Ar-Ramlah Al-Bayda', disputed by the two organizations.

Reports from 'Alayh state that the situation remains tense following the armed clash which took place between guards of the town's prison and armed party members. As a result of the clash, 'Ali ad-Danaf was killed and Amin Salihah was wounded.

In the south, Israeli military planes and war vessels shelled Tyre harbor during the night. A two-story hotel was demolished by two rockets. At dawn, the body of Marie Jabbur, the hotel manager, was pulled out from under the debris. A student named 'Ali Sham 'Ali, a guest at the hotel, was wounded and moved to the hospital. Gendarme Corporal Muhammad Birru was also hit. However, no loss of life has yet been determined, although there has been heavy loss of property.

Furthermore, long-range artillery shelled the two areas of An-Nabatiyh and Rayhan, causing losses that had not yet been determined by dawn today.

TUWAYNI SUBMITS MEMORANDUM TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL

NC091720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 May 79 NC

["Text"] of memorandum submitted by Lebanon's permanent UN Delegate Ghassan Tuwayni to the UN Security Council chairman--date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency: Further to my letter of 23 April 1979, I am honored once again to convey my government's deep interest in the developments in southern Lebanon, especially the increasing difficulties, obstacles and hindrances facing the UN Emergency Forces.

We are aware of the continuous efforts made by the Security Council chairman and some of its members before and since the meeting held on 26 April 1976.

We must note with deep regret that the situation has been steadily deteriorating. It has become impossible even to insure the safety of the UN Emergency Forces and their headquarters, as confirmed in a statement by the chairman of the Security Council on behalf of the council members.

My government feels that the time has come for the council to decide to take fresh steps toward the full implementation of Resolution 425 in accordance with executive clause No seven of Resolution 444, which stipulates the following: The Security Council affirms that it is determined, in the event of continued obstruction of the deployment of the UN Emergency Forces, to consider practical ways and means, in harmony with the UN legitimacy, to insure full implementation of Resolution 425.

We believe that this emanates from the spirit and context of the chairman's statement. We also believe that this call was clearly contained in the secretary general's report of 19 April. This report was met with serious understanding by the council, my government and the various governments concerned.

In this respect, I have been directed to express to the council my government's high appreciation of the sincerity demonstrated in the search for solutions to the problems raised in the report and the attempt to provide the necessary required guarantees. My government is particularly grateful to the secretary general for his thorough explanation of the dangers threatening southern Lebanon and for his clear warning to the international community that this situation is not only catastrophic for the government and people of Lebanon, but may lead to further serious deterioration in the general situation in the Middle East.

In response to the secretary general's appeal, we feel that we must all conduct ourselves in such a way as to minimize the actual threat to world peace and security posed by the situation in Lebanon.

While expressing our full confidence in the way the Security Council has handled the issue and, while certain parties have not responded to the council's appeal, we wish to draw attention to the following points:

1. The Lebanese Government has studied the phased program within the context of Resolution 444 as being only the first step toward the implementation of Resolution 425, and considered it as a balanced, integral and indivisible whole.
2. It is clear from the secretary general's report, and the developments which followed the council's meeting, that the program was not implemented fully because it was resisted by force, and that Israel's direct and indirect responsibility does not require further proof.
3. The measures advocated by the Security Council on 26 April regarding the safety of the UN Emergency Forces are only a first direct step toward the completion of the program that must give the UN forces complete freedom of movement in the border area, as outlined in the secretary general's report in November 1978.
4. Beyond the present so-called phased program of activities, the UN Emergency Forces must be given full authority over the so-called enclave, up to the internationally recognized borders. At least for their own safety, the emergency forces must not remain so dangerously dependent on the mood of the fait accompli forces, which must themselves gradually come under the authority of the emergency forces.

The full implementation of Resolution 425 will naturally be achieved when the emergency forces take full control of the areas in question and when the Lebanese Government's authority is restored, with the help of the emergency forces, over all the territories within its internationally recognized borders.

Such direct and final objectives cannot be achieved without ascertaining Israel's full withdrawal on 13 June 1978, the secretary general's subsequent reports proved, to the contrary, that Israeli military personnel were still carrying out activities inside Lebanon and that they maintain some decisive influence, if not complete influence, in the border region. The Security Council has more than once said that this fact constitutes a defiance of its resolutions and a violation of the UN Charter.

My government firmly believes that as soon as southern Lebanon is freed from Israeli occupation, the emergency forces will be able to operate normally. We must remember here that the UN forces, as peace-keeping forces, were formed on the assumption that they would at all times enjoy the confidence and support of the Security Council, and that they should work in full cooperation with all the parties concerned.

In this respect, may we please draw the attention of the council to the following points which define the duties of the emergency forces and to certain general considerations contained in the general report of the secretary general regarding the implementation of 425, which was circulated on 19 March 1978 and approved immediately under Resolution 426:

1. The force must be able to operate as an effective and integral military unit;
2. The force must have freedom of movement and communication, as well as other necessary facilities to enable it to discharge its duties;
3. The force will be supplied with defensive weapons. Force, however, will only be used in self-defense. Self-defense includes defense against attempts to prevent it, by force, from discharging the duties assigned to it by the UN Security Council.

It is thus clear that the setting up of the emergency force at the beginning involved some degree of imposing peace. This delicate side of the issue was raised at the Security Council before, albeit indirectly. A number of sides commented on it, but from various points of view.

In my observations to the council on 19 January after the voting on Resolution 444, I requested emphatically that the emergency forces be given powers so that they may succeed in accomplishing their mission. I also affirmed that the military choice should not be revived through the so far limited use of diplomatic choice. In light of the tragic experiences since then, we believe that the emergency forces should be given more military powers. Only the ability to deter can foil those who defy its authority and can prevent attacks on its men and installations, and obstruction of its mission.

This does not mean that the UN forces should embark on an arms race with the undisciplined forces of a member state of the United Nations, even when its conduct impedes peace. In such cases there are other means at the disposal of the United Nations under the UN Charter. In the event of such obstruction by irresponsible elements illegally armed, it becomes essential that the emergency forces must not be permitted to find themselves in a weak position or in a position where they have insufficient means--as stated in the general report of the secretary general.

We feel that it may be appropriate here to recall what the secretary general himself said in his report to the last session of the General Assembly on peace-keeping and the resort to force. He said that using force is the last, and least desirable, resort for the peace-keeping force, and that a peace-keeping force must first try negotiation and persuasion to achieve its objectives; but when these methods fail, then the UN Security Council must consider other ways at its disposal under the charter.

My government sincerely wishes that we will all manage to avoid the use of force because it could mean more bloodshed and perpetuation of the tragedy in a country that has suffered considerably and where all parties are victims.

This is why we feel that the practical means and ways which the council may adopt on the basis of article seven of Resolution 444 must all have the following objectives:

1. Preventing renewal of fighting and guaranteeing that the area of the emergency forces' operations will not be used for any kind of aggression;
2. Helping the Lebanese Government to regain its real authority over the area.

The secretary general, after mentioning these objectives in his 19 March 1978 report--which was supported by Resolution 426--clearly said that the termination of the authority of the emergency forces by the Security Council shall not affect the work of the continuous work of the joint armistice commission, as stipulated in the Security Council resolution.

The final objective which the council appears to have set for the emergency forces and for itself is to revive the above-mentioned 1949 armistice agreement. If this is the case, then certain new objective conditions must be created to insure ability to work and to insure implementation. My government wishes to reaffirm very clearly here our steady and continuous support for the armistice agreement. Year after year and despite the violent developments, we have always called for meeting of the Joint Armistice Commission at the appropriate level.

We feel that with the approach of the end of the mandate of the UN Emergency Forces, new permanent arrangements must be made to prevent a return to the present state of affairs--that is war, bloodshed, and continuous violation of Lebanon's territory, sovereignty and national security.

Israel, not content with its continuous aggression against Lebanese territory, is now encroaching on the basic principles of Lebanon's organic unity by claiming that it has a right to protect the Lebanese people.

This violation of the fundamental principles of international law is becoming more acute with Israel's declaration that the so-called Christian soldier is vital to Israel's security.

My government has never at any time ignored the fact there is a security problem indeed in certain parts of southern Lebanon and that some feelings expressed in this connection by Lebanese citizens may be justified, if not legitimate. However, this does not entitle Israel to appoint itself as the protector of this Lebanese group or another, to turn the role of this group into one of subservience to it, for Israeli strategic considerations. Furthermore, Israel's present use of the so-called Christian fait accompli forces, which are now equipped, trained, and financed by Israel and are under Israel's control, constitutes an obstacle in the way of the implementation of the UN Security Council resolution, a source of much trouble and a threat to peace, as well as a threat to the UN emergency forces. Last but not least, it is an element of instability and has prevented progress toward the restoration of Lebanese national unity, political sovereignty and stability. This has also continuously presented a challenge to the role of the national Lebanese Army which has been rebuilt to insure the return of effective government authority in southern Lebanon and the rest of the country. It has also given others a pretext for defying Lebanon's authority and doubting its sovereignty.

The present government does not ignore, nor does it want the council to ignore, the tragic conditions resulting from the presence of the Palestinians in southern Lebanon after their forceful evacuation from Palestine. While waiting for a just and lasting solution to the Palestine problem fulfilling the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, especially their right to return to their homeland, my government has continuously appealed to the world not to let Lebanon continue to be the innocent victim of the world's failure to deal with a great historical tragedy of the world's own making.

The cycle of violence everybody is always talking about must stop. Southern Lebanon may be the place to at least contain it.

It is important here that we stress that the reports of the secretary general have repeatedly spoken of the willingness of the Palestinians to cooperate with the UN peace-keeping forces. In his report of 13 June 1978 the secretary general submitted to the council a five-point agreement between the Lebanese Government and the PLO, in which the PLO pledges not only to refrain from infiltrating in the area of UNIFIL operations, but also to abide by a larger-scale policy which, we know, was going to be supervised by a committee from the Lebanese Government, the PLO and the Arab Deterrent Forces.

We have reason to believe that the PLO would have adhered to this PLO commitment to peace in southern Lebanon if a halt was called to the Israeli attacks which escalate the operations and preclude any chance of effectively keeping peace.

The Lebanese Government has demonstrated its willingness and ability to gradually fulfill its military commitments. If it is to meet the challenge of the international community, even in a limited way, it must be given a better opportunity and it must be given help with utmost determination.

As far as we are concerned, this is the real meaning of the message in the statement of the chairman of the UN Security Council on 26 April.

What is occurring along the UN Emergency Forces' area of operations has a direct reflection on what is occurring in the whole of southern Lebanon. This, in turn, enhances and affirms the efforts exerted in other areas of the country. This will also give the state more status and moral strength if it succeeds in implementing, by means of purely Lebanese efforts, those projects and security agreements thwarted because of the deteriorating security situation in the south. The restoration of Lebanon's national and social unity will then become possible in the most suitable manner and will restore our unity with those who, for some time now, have been looking for security outside the realm of the historical, political Lebanese entity.

My government feels that the citizens of the border areas, if they are left alone and allowed to determine their own mode and method of work, will discover that the practical guarantees for peace and security will become available when the UN Emergency Forces assert their presence in what is known as the enclave, under the UN Security Council's supervision and that these guarantees will be preferable to the guarantees offered by the present chaotic conditions.

Furthermore, when a decisive international force is formed possessing more military authority in southern Lebanon, the government will possibly exert more positive efforts by cooperating with the UN Emergency Forces in order to make the operations area and, in turn, the whole of southern Lebanon an area of peace. This situation will also enable the restoration of international peace and the establishment of an atmosphere suitable for national rehabilitation. By then, Lebanon will be able to reassume its role as a factor of peace and stability in the region, instead of being a cause of anxiety to everyone, as well as a danger to international peace and security. This cannot be achieved without full and unconditional Israeli withdrawal, not only from the Lebanese territories, but also from the role it has undertaken in its relations in the international community. Israel must refrain from interfering in Lebanon's affairs and the affairs of the Arab peoples and governments.

In conclusion, my government wishes to reiterate its belief that the UN emergency forces have not been allowed--or else they did not consider it essential or possible--to use all means at their disposal in order to carry out their mission and practice all their rights without having to transcend their military powers. It [word indistinct] appropriate or possible to have shown at least, some deterrent force in order to affirm their right as the defenders of peace and to defend themselves against those who have limited their freedom and threatened their security. It is time for the UN Security Council to give the UN Emergency Forces the means by which they will be able to achieve their mission thoroughly with strength, assurance and certainty of success. My government is currently discussing a radical change in the authority of the UN Emergency Forces but hopes that this change will not be necessary, because it believes that the UN Security Council--in spite of the acts of defiance and various impediments--will be able to redetermine the mission of the UN emergency forces by means of political and military actions, in a way that will insure implementation of Resolution 425 as we have clearly defined in this memorandum.

My delegation will be willing, at an appropriate time in this debate, to submit and discuss specific points related to the practical means and methods mentioned in clause 7 of Resolution 444, which will enable the UN Emergency Forces to impose peace whenever necessary and without exception on those who irresponsibly limit the security of these forces and impede the implementation of their mission. While I await this step, I have instructions from my government to request his excellency the president to distribute this memorandum as a UN Security Council document and to submit for discussion at the earliest possible date.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD EXPLAINS DEVELOPMENTS IN ARAB SITUATION

JN100632 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 May 79 JN

[Text] Last night, President Hafiz al-Asad received the permanent bureau members of the Arab Lawyers Federation. President al-Asad explained the developments in the Arab situation. His excellency pointed out that since the October War, As-Sadat's regime has been working to erase the positive and tremendous results of the glorious October War. These results were one of the most important points in the Arab nation's life.

Speaking on the developments in the Arab situation, President al-Asad said: What As-Sadat has done is a deep wound and a titanic tragedy. However, President al-Asad added: These are not fatal. The Arab nation, due to its great potential, is capable of combating the severe pain resulting from As-Sadat's capitulation. The Arab nation, President al-Asad added, is also capable of triumph in its struggle against the Zionist enemy. There are several facts in history that confirm the soundness of this.

The president emphasized that the aim and road leading to it cannot be disassociated. The noble aim must be achieved by pursuing the road of nobility and dignity. The road that has been pursued by As-Sadat is one of capitulation. This can neither liberate the occupied Arab territories nor regain the rights of the Palestinian people.

Speaking on the inception of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, on the rapprochement between Syria and Iraq, and on the ninth Arab summit conference in Baghdad, President al-Asad said these are factors that have increased the Arab nation's steadfastness and marshalled its morale and material potential. He said that every Arab citizen must be satisfied with the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement, because every unity step must positively reflect on the Arab nation.

The president added: We in Syria and Iraq are working seriously to achieve unity. We have so far achieved several positive things. We are constantly studying matters realistically and seriously. The president added that every Arab citizen is pinning hope on this rapprochement. In the same magnitude we are working to achieve Arab unity, we must also solve the problems obstructing the road of progress.

The president asserted that the aim of Arab unity belongs to every Arab citizen, before which all other aims become insignificant. Arab unity is a main step that can help us build a free and advanced society, he added. The president said that unity is bound to eliminate all factors that have caused the nation's ordeal and to overcome all problems and challenges facing this unity.

Speaking on Syria's efforts since 1970 to achieve an advanced stage of unity between Syria and several Arab states, President al-Asad said that the stumbling of any unity experiment does not mean that unity is faulty; rather, it means that the mode of implementation is faulty. He added that all Arab citizens must support the Arab march and shoulder its responsibilities, each according to his position.

The president explained that Syria's gains during the past years in the field of popular and administrative organizations have manifested the freedom of citizens and guaranteed them popular and vocational organizations and enabled them to play their role in building the country and the nation's march.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON LEBANON, REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ID091339 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 7 May 79 pp 1, 5 LD

[Untitled interview granted by Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to Wadi' al-Hilu in Damascus, "Prior to His Recent Visit to Beirut"]

[Text] Question: It used to be said that political conciliation is the basis for solving the Lebanese problem. Now, following the declaration of "Sa'd Haddad's state" in the south, which could be followed by the declaration of other mini-states, how, in your opinion, can the Lebanese be reconciled, and what would be the Lebanese solution, if there is a Lebanese solution?

Answer: Reconciliation among the Lebanese will remain the basis for solving the problem. The fact that a citizen has emerged as a traitor does not cancel this objective basis. We must always differentiate between individuals who commit treason and the domestic situation in the country. Naturally, when we talk about national reconciliation it means that its basis must be national principles, which precludes any treasonous action. Sa'd Haddad's treason is not new, and the question of reconciliation is not new either. There is no doubt that one of the most important objectives of national reconciliation is to strike at and liquidate such betrayal. This phenomenon is the political result of As-Sadat's treasons. The declaration of the so-called "Free Lebanon" is, in addition to being a link in the chain of conspiracy, aimed at serving the conspiracy plan and providing a cover for As-Sadat's treaty. Consequently, the question of Lebanese reconciliation is a domestic matter but, since the reconciliation must be Lebanese, the Lebanese parties must act from a national viewpoint. In my opinion this must be based on the following considerations:

- 1--Commitment to legitimacy and the integrity of the state and its institutions;
- 2--Condemnation of deals with the Israeli enemy;
- 3--The premise that Lebanon is part of the Arab world and is linked to it by historical and national ties, as well as by interests;
- 4--Implementation of the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions, which have been endorsed by the Lebanese Cabinet.

Syria's relations with the Lebanese parties are influenced by the extent to which these parties adhere to the principles to which I referred.

Question: Lebanon was Syria's main problem, but now the Lebanese problem seems to have become less important in relation to other problems facing Syria. Is this true?

Answer: The Lebanese problems concerns us as much as any other Arab problem and in proportion to the national relationship that exists between the Lebanese people and ourselves. Therefore, our interest in this problem stems from our national commitment. It must be pointed out that the Lebanese problem has emerged at a particular stage in order to serve the U.S.-Zionist plan in the area and to provide cover for the second Sinai agreement As-Sadat signed with the Israeli enemy. There is no doubt also that by confronting this problem we are confronting the major plan that created this problem.

During the confrontation of this plan any comparison between this problem and other problems becomes irrelevant. Comparison must be made between the means of confronting the plan according to its various objectives. In other words, the plan is now concentrating on liquidating the Palestinian problem, implementing the Zionist plan and dividing the Arabs. Consequently, the major effort must be devoted to the heart of the plan and what it represents. I mean the treasonous and capitulationist treaty which As-Sadat signed.

Therefore, I can say that the central objective now is to activate the Arab struggle in order to foil the treaty and liquidate the regime that has betrayed Egypt and the Arabs and turned itself into a cheap tool in the hands of world Zionism, in order to implement its plan in the area and facilitate its domination not only over Palestine but also over other parts of the Arab homeland, as well as over Arab resources and wealth. The plan also aims at turning the Arabs into a tool serving the Zionist economy and turning the Zionist entity into an economic, political, cultural and military base serving the Zionist and imperialist objectives.

Question: What is the secret behind the rumors about Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon? Is the Syrian command revising its Lebanese calculations before taking the next step, and is Syria about to take a new initiative that is different from the first?

Answer: The question of Syrian presence is linked to the objectives of that presence. Discussion of this matter is related to discussion of these objectives.

Question: There is an Israeli "red line" in the south and a Maronite "red line" inside the country. Is there a Syrian red line in Lebanon that Syria will not allow to be crossed. And, if so, is it possible to determine this line?

Answer: There are no red, blue or yellow lines in the face of Lebanese legitimacy; rather there are decisions by the Lebanese state. It is the state that can determine the movement of the deterrent forces in the Lebanese territories.

Question: You are about to leave for Beirut to discuss with President Ilyas Sarkis and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss questions relating to the Lebanese-Syrian relations. What is the state of these relations and what are the bases that have been agreed upon so far? Has agreement been reached on a date for a meeting between Presidents al-Asad and Sarkis?

Answer: The purpose of the visit is to exchange views with His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis regarding the current situation in Lebanon and to discuss what may serve the progress of national reconciliation and the strengthening of Lebanese national unity.

Question: It is obvious that there is a general stalemate in the Lebanese arena. Is there any reason to believe that the stalemate will continue? In other words, has the time come for a Lebanese peace?

Answer: Certainly the present stalemate does not serve Lebanon or the Lebanese people's interests. There is a need to make efforts to give momentum to the process of reconciliation and of restoring Lebanese unity.

Peace for the Lebanese people is primarily dependent on the Lebanese parties' inclination toward the achievement of national reconciliation, although the situation in the area and the plan to which I have just referred could play a negative role in the Lebanese peace process through interference in what is going on in Lebanon.

Question: Prior to signing the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty President Carter said that the United States will play the role of a full partner in peace efforts aimed at reaching a solution to the Middle East crisis. The question is: How do you see the U.S. role, and could the U.S. play the same full partner role in relation to Syria, the PLO, Jordan and Lebanon? Is a European role--French, for example--required?

Answer: The United States is playing the full partner role with Israel in favor of the U.S. and Zionist interests. The United States, in view of the nature of its special relations with Israel, cannot play an honest role in the area.

The Americans say that they are responsible for Israel's security and the Israeli economy and that Israeli interests are part of the U.S. interests. How, therefore, can we imagine that they can play an honest role?

Is it possible for the country offering Israel all the means of destruction and killing to be impartial and honest? I do not think that any reasonable person or a nationalist would believe this.

Question: What progress has been made in Syrian-Iraqi unity, and what is still delaying its declaration?

Answer: There is serious discussion going on between the leaderships of both countries. We are now exchanging views and ideas on the best formulas and means that would serve the common objective, namely to achieve unity between the two countries. There is no doubt that this unity action, in addition to satisfying our craving for unity, also serves as one of the main means to confront the existing tripartite alliance between As-Sadat, Israel and the Americans.

Question: Would you define the Syrian role in Lebanon and in what respect this role does or does not accord with the Arab and international roles in the Lebanese arena?

Answer: The Syrian role in Lebanon is clear and has been defined since 1 June 1976. It has not changed or altered. It is a role based on national considerations and accords with every role that any Arab country wishes to play within this framework.

Question: Certain U.S. circles are surprised by the attitude of the Arab oil-producing countries, particularly Saudi Arabia. Does this mean that Saudi Arabia was previously close to As-Sadat's policy?

Answer: It is strange that the U.S. circles should be surprised by the stand of the Arab oil-producing countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, because those countries have a clear and firm policy toward the Arab-Israeli conflict based on shouldering the national responsibility in the conflict. We must expect campaigns aimed at sowing doubt and creating confusion in the Arab world, despite the fact that the originators of such campaigns know well the Arabs' commitment to the Palestinian problem.

The declaration by some U.S. circles that they are surprised by Saudi Arabia's stand is ridiculous, because they are well aware of Saudi Arabia's commitment to the Palestinian problem and to the question of Jerusalem. Did these Americans expect any Arab state to accept the liquidation of the Palestinian problem, including the problem of the holy city, or that the Arabs would accept surrender?

The Arab countries' success in reaching unanimous resolutions at the Arab foreign and economic affairs ministers conference in Baghdad reflects the Arab countries' true policy.

Question: What is the alternative to the Camp David accords from a Syrian and Arab standpoint? Is there hope of reconvening the Geneva conference?

Answer: The alternative to treason is national action and strengthening our struggle in order to achieve our national objectives. The alternative to surrender is work for just and lasting peace within the framework of international legality and the UN resolutions. With regard to the Geneva conference, it has become part of history since the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty torpedoed the UN resolutions and its charter.

Question: What is your opinion about the speculation that one of the expected results of the Camp David accords would be an attempt to subjugate Syria, in order to force it to negotiate with Israel by launching a lightning Israeli attack and inciting internal sectarian strife in Syria?

Answer: Syria and any country whose policy is based on patriotic and nationalist considerations and who stands up to defend its interests and objectives is bound to be the target of enemy plans. It is natural, while we are confronting the serious change taking place in the area aimed at tearing our nation apart and liquidating our national existence, to be the target of such plans, but we are confident that we shall defeat such plans.

The talks about the possibility of creating internal problems in Syria is ridiculous and deserves no comment. This is because our people, whom colonialism failed to divide into small states during the French occupation, foiled the creation of such states and are still resisting these mighty forces with their strength. They will not waver; their security and stability will not be affected by such plans.

The nature of the plan we are confronting and the conditions we are experiencing play a major role in strengthening the internal nationalist front in Syria. As for the question of a possible Israeli aggression, our people will face any aggression attempt with all their strength and will not be alone in the battlefield. The Arab nation, with all its material and moral resources, will be with us.

GENERAL TALAS INSPECTS SYRIAN FORCES IN LEBANON

JN091843 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1750 GMT 9 May 79 JN

[Text] Damascus, 9 May--At the instructions of Commander in Chief of the Army and the Armed Forces President Hafiz al-Asad, Deputy Commander of the Army and the Armed Forces and Minister of Defense Gen Mustafa Talas, accompanied by Maj Gen Nasir ad-Din Nasir, director of the political administration, made an inspection tour today of the Syrian forces operating within the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon.

Upon his arrival Gen Talas was received at the forces' headquarters by the major general commanding the Syrian forces in Lebanon and a number of senior officers. After a brief rest, during which the general met with the unit commanders, he visited a combat unit, where he delivered a speech. At the beginning of the speech he conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to the hero fighters. He said: President leader Hafiz al-Asad sends you his greetings. He appreciates his brave men who are performing a sacred mission for the Arab nation's welfare and for the sake of preserving Lebanon's Arabism.

The deputy commander in chief explained the current circumstances affecting our Arab nation and stressed that these circumstances increase the degree of responsibility we must shoulder. He then said: We are determined to achieve victory and to overthrow As-Sadat, the agent who sold Arab Egypt and the Arab Nation, due to a belief that he can intimidate the Arab nation and subjugate it to the will of imperialism and Zionism. The expectations of this agent are of no avail, because our people have become stronger and more determined to resist all forms of capitulation and to confront all the agents, including agent Sa'd Haddad, who recently announced the establishment of a statelet in southern Lebanon under the protection of the Israelis. This step was undoubtedly part of the plot aimed against our Arab nation and its struggle for unity and liberation.

General Talas praised the unionist steps currently underway between Syria and Iraq on all levels. He said that these steps will be consolidated and that their positive results will reflect on the entire Arab nation.

He said that through his brave stands, President Hafiz al-Asad is playing the role of Salam ad-Din al-Ayyubi, who entered Jerusalem as a conqueror and liberator. That is the heroic picture accepted by all our Arab people, he said. He added that history affirms that all those who came to liberate Jerusalem came from the north. We, too, shall come to liberate the south of Syria--Arab Palestine.

Gen Mustafa Talas concluded his speech by saying: We are strong through your bravery, strong through your heroism. We are always progressing and achieving further strength in the various fields. This makes us feel optimistic for the future. We are living through the Arab nation's contemporary history and the near future will show us all how the will of the Arab nation will triumph and how the capitulationists, as well as those who wanted to distort our glorious history, will be defeated. We shall grow stronger and will take the stand that is in harmony with our history, which abounds with glories, sacrifices and heroism.

ALGERIA

EL MOUDJAHID ON UN RHODESIAN RESOLUTIONS, SANCTIONS

ID091013 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 30 Apr 79 p 6 LD

[A. Zouied article: "Political Make-Believe"]

[Text] By proceeding unilaterally to hold so-called elections in occupied Zimbabwe, the racist, minority Salisbury regime has unquestionably issued a challenge to the international community, and more particularly to the United Nations authority.

Both these "elections" and their results, which will be counted under the "protection" of the occupying army, are legally invalid.

No recognition can be offered by a state without it deliberately contravening its international obligations. Hence it is strange that the United States should say, through its most authorised spokesman, that this election sham is "a step in the right direction" and seriously contemplate "lifting the economic sanctions" imposed against Ian Smith's illegal regime.

Admittedly the United States has hardly sympathized with the Zimbabwe people's struggle, but for it to try to hamper the decolonization of this African corner of the world directly or indirectly is almost tantamount to saying that the United States is not playing properly its role as a permanent member of the Security Council. And to sit on the council on the one hand and violate its resolutions on the other can only result in it compromising itself.

It would therefore be unfortunate if it were to call into question the UN sanctions against Salisbury, contrary to the obligations incumbent on it by virtue of the charter.

We are well aware of the kind of advantages it would gain from lifting sanctions, but what would be the fate of the United Nations, the Zimbabwe people's right to self-determination, peace and international security? There could certainly be duplicity in the American attitude which would arouse indignation and further complicate the situation and UN efforts to achieve real decolonization for Zimbabwe.

The only sensible approach on its part is therefore to respect the international community's wishes and abide by the UN resolutions and the provisions relating to economic, trade and financial sanctions against the racist regime in power. To try to regard elections that have been rigged with a seal of democracy as "a step in the right direction" is a political stratagem. Such a stance, camouflaged by perfidious wording, is one of the most extraordinary instances of political deception in the context of democracy and illustrates for all to see the bad faith which permeates Western maneuvers.

Their main objective is to deny the Zimbabwe people their true independence, to make the UN resolutions seem absurd, and to reinforce the illegality of the Smith regime and its preservation in power so that it can continue to plunder the country's natural resources. For they know that the organization of free elections, a noble task incumbent on the United Nations, would mean the end of White minority rule, colonialism and privileges.

In any event, the fraudulent April elections will not alter the Zimbabwe people's legitimate struggle, even if the fiction of handing over power to "elected" natives were to proceed.

As the UN General Assembly has stressed, the Zimbabwe people have an inalienable right and any settlement relating to their country's future must be drawn up with the patriotic front's full participation.

LIBYA

JALLUD RECEIVES POLISARIO SECRETARY GENERAL ABDUL AZIZ

LD092028 Tripoli JANA in English 1822 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, May 9, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Staff-Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received today Mohamed Abdul Aziz, secretary general of Seghia al Hamra and Rio de Oro Popular Liberation Front [POLISARIO].

Abdul Aziz arrived in Tripoli last Tuesday on a several-day visit to the Jamahiriya.

AT-TURAYKI RECEIVES IMAM OF CHAD, CONFERENCE SECRETARY

LD100942 Tripoli JANA in English 0840 GMT 10 May 79 LD

[Excerpt] Fez, 10 May, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Dr. 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, received in Fez yesterday morning the imam of the Chadian Moslems who is taking part in the Islamic conference. They discussed the Moslem affairs in Chad in confronting the tribal adventurous group that formed an illegal government in Chad. They also discussed the means of supporting Islam and the Moslems in Chad.

The foreign secretary also received yesterday Mr. Ahmad Karim, the general secretary of the Islamic conference.

U.S. PLANE'S 'CHALLENGE' TO LIBYAN AIRCRAFT PROTESTED

LD091328 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The Foreign Secretariat today summoned the U.S. charge d'affaires. JANA reports that the Foreign Secretariat advised him of a protest by the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya over an attempt on 22 April by a U.S. aircraft to challenge a Libyan Airlines plane while it was en route from Benghazi to Damascus.

TUNISIA

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON DEPARTURE

LD091133 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 27-28 Apr 79 p 7 LD

[APS report: "Presidents Bendjedid and Bourguiba Are Determined to Further Consolidate Bilateral Relations"]

[Text] Tunis--Mr Mohamed Benyahia, National Liberation Front [FLN] Party Politburo member and foreign minister, left Tunis-Carthage International Airport yesterday noon at the end of a 2-day visit to Tunisia during which, among other things, he delivered a message from Mr Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN party secretary general, to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba.

In a statement made to the TUNISIAN PRESS AGENCY [TAP] Mr Benyahia said that during his visit to Tunisia he had the honor of being received by President Bourguiba. "This audience," he stated, "during which I delivered a message to the Tunisian head of state from his brother President Chadli Benjedid, enabled me to familiarize myself with President Bourguiba's views on all the political questions which we discussed."

Furthermore, Mr Benyahia described as very fruitful the talks which he had with Prime Minister Hedi Nour and Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri on bilateral relations and other questions concerning the situation in the region and the Arab world. "I have noted with satisfaction," he stated, "the political will which actuates the two countries' leaders and which has been, in any case, concretized by our decision to soon convene the grand Algerian-Tunisian joint commission."

"The results of our talks," he added, "show our desire to continue striving to further consolidate our bilateral relations."

Asked about the Algerian approach to the problem of building a greater Maghreb, Mohamed Benyahia stated: "Through history, a common civilization and destiny have been forged at the Maghreb level. As a result, the unity of the entire Maghreb has become a historical possibility because it is desired by the peoples and is in the nature of things."

"It is up to us," he continued, "to achieve this unity among the peoples and, therefore, jointly strive to create objective prerequisites likely to help us to achieve this aim."

Replying to a question on the situation which now prevails in the Arab world and the consequences of the separate Egyptian-Zionist treaty, the Algerian foreign minister stated that the Washington agreements are "the greatest political calamity experienced by the Arab world in its modern history."

"As-Sadat's initiative," he said, "has, in my opinion, led to a situation much more serious than the situation which prevailed in the Arab world in 1948."

"We believe that it is imperative to unite all the vital forces of the Arab nation to defeat this attempt to crush the Palestinian people's struggle for the restoration of their rights and the other Arab countries' fight for the recovery of their occupied territories," he emphasized before concluding:

"If we do this, the Washington agreements will be unable to undermine Arab determination, since the nationalism which prompts us all will enable us to cope with our responsibilities."

On his departure, the Algerian minister was seen off by Mohamed Fitouri, Foreign Ministry Secretary General Taies Sebbani, Tunisian Ambassador to Algeria Amor Fezzani, Algerian Ambassador to Tunisia Ali Keffi, Protocol Chief Abdelmadjid Karoui and several high Foreign Ministry officials.

On Thursday night, Mohamed Benyahia was guest at a dinner given by Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri.

SECURITY ELEMENTS DISCUSS IDF RAID INTO LEBANON

TA091615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] An IDF force carried out a sweep in the region of the Shaqra village in southern Lebanon. This morning the force ran into a terrorist group, captured one of them and continued to pursue the other terrorists who escaped in the direction of the village. Our correspondent Gad Baker is summing up today's events in the north:

[Baker--live] In the early morning hours a group which was apparently composed of four terrorists left the Tyre region in the direction of the Israeli-Lebanese border. On its way the group went through a UNIFIL area where it stayed for a while. At about 0400 an IDF patrol ran across the group and in the exchange of fire one of the terrorists was wounded and captured. The rest of the terrorists escaped northward, back to the area from which they had come. News agency reports tell about a battle that lasted for about an hour, during which the terrorists used heavy machineguns and bazookas. The terrorist radio reported that two terrorists were killed and two returned to their base. The IDF forces combed the area of the encounter looking for the fleeing terrorists. At about 0700 an IDF force entered the region of the Shaqra village in southern Lebanon. This was reported by the news agencies, adding contradictory reports that from 40 to up to 250 Israeli and Christian tanks were said to have penetrated into the region.

In answer to a question an IDF spokesman confirmed today that an IDF force carried out a sweep in the region of the Shaqra village. The force that had earlier encountered the terrorist group continued to chase the terrorists that escaped to the area of the village. Upon completion of its task the force returned to our territory. The IDF spokesman noted that it is inconceivable that terrorists who fail in their attempt to hit Israeli civilians will find refuge beyond the border.

The terrorists fled into the area controlled by the Irish UN forces in southern Lebanon. Security elements said today that the UN force did not fulfil its responsibility when it did not prevent the armed group from passing through its area and did not even try to capture it, not even after the exchange of fire between the terrorists and the IDF force, whose echoes could well be heard in the distance.

The Irish UN force in the Shaqra region released an announcement today in which it reported the entry of an Israeli force into the village. The UN announcement states that the members of the UN force refused to allow the IDF force to comb the area. Following this refusal--the UN force states--the Israeli force retraced its steps [back into Israeli territory]. Senior security elements in Israel today expressed wonder that the UN had not prevented the entry of the terrorists into Israel and their escape back to Lebanon, but disturbed the IDF in the course of its sweep.

UN SPOKESMAN CONFIRMS IDF REQUESTED AID

TA091740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Text] The UN spokesman in southern Lebanon reported that IDF soldiers, looking for terrorists in the village of Shaqra this morning, asked the Irish unit to help them but the request was rejected. The spokesman pointed out that it had been made clear to the soldiers that they would be responsible if force was used.

An IDF platoon arrived in the village this morning.

Later on they were reinforced by two other platoons, according to the spokesman. They were aided by 37 jeeps with machineguns, eight armored personnel carriers and four halftracks. Some 20 tanks were stationed in the enclave. At the same time, the United Nations called reinforcements from the Dutch, Senegalese and Nigerian units. The IDF soldiers retreated from the village of Shaqra in the afternoon.

Haddad Comment

TA092015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Text] This evening south Lebanon Christian militias commander Maj Sa'd Haddad sent a cable of gratitude to UN headquarters in An-Naqurah for the cooperation of UN commanders in the joint pursuit of the terrorist squad which attempted to infiltrate the area of Manara this morning.

Our correspondent in the north, Yehezq'el HaMe'iri, reports that, in contradiction to the announcement by UN forces commander in south Lebanon, Gen Emmanuel Erskine, Haddad claims that the UN officers in charge of the region cooperated with the militia commanders searching the area. The searchers were joined by several IDF soldiers. Haddad further claims that his men were warmly received in the village of Shaqra and the villagers asked them to set up strongholds to prevent the terrorists from crossing their fields on their way to the enclave or the Israeli border. He goes on to say that the notables of the village demanded that the IDF force not abandon them because the terrorists threaten them if they do not provide shelter to them.

SARKIS' REACTION TO BEGIN'S PEACE PROPOSAL REPORTED

TA100606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 79 TA

[Text] Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis has responded for the first time to Prime Minister Begin's call to begin peace negotiations between the two countries. After a Cabinet meeting in Beirut, Sarkis said there is no disagreement between the two nations over their border. However, he pointed out that the Arab-Israeli conflict is a question of rights and of justice. He added that a solution to the conflict will be found only when the Palestinian problem is solved.

BEGIN CONDEMNS EXECUTION OF IRANIAN JEW

TA091409 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Text] From the Knesset rostrum the prime minister condemned the execution of Habib Elqanian who was the president of the Iranian Jewish community. He called on the nations of the world not to remain silent in light of the murderous acts of the bloody regime in Iran. He said that the Jewish people will consecrate the memory of Elqanian.

Habib Elqanian was executed last night. He was detained shortly after Khomeyni reached power, several days after returning from a business trip in the United States.

According to reports which Iranian-born Israelis have received, about 100 Jews are in detention there. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh says that the Jews are deeply apprehensive, a feeling which has intensified after the execution of the late head of the Iranian Jewish community.

BEGIN REPORTEDLY IGNORANT OF BILL ON PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITY

TA091136 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 9 May 79 p 21 TA

[From the "forecast page"]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin ordered his aides to leak to the press that liberal MK Avraham Katz's bill concerning a freeze on the state president's activities for a period was submitted without his consent or knowledge. This leak by Begin's spokesmen came after it became clear that Katz's bill was a public boomerang which has hit back at the president's critics.

Circles associated with the prime minister, who claim that Begin did not know about Katz's bill, now reveal that the whole affair was at the initiative of Minister Without Portfolio Moshe Nisim.

KNESSET DEBATES MOTIONS OF NO-CONFIDENCE

TA091048 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Text] Right now, the defense minister is responding at the Knesset to the motion of no-confidence submitted by the Alinement and Shay factions on the release of 76 terrorists for the soldiers Avraham 'Amram.

MK Yiga'l Allon, speaking on behalf of the Alinement, said that the mass release of 76 terrorists is a serious deed in itself, but that the gravity is twofold because this is typical of the Cabinet's conduct in general. He pointed to hastiness and insufficient thought as well as the lack of an appropriate organ for decisionmaking. According to Allon, the surrender to terror constitutes a real chance of increasing bloodshed. The terrorists may ask themselves: Why not try to catch hostages? We have seen the first foul fruit of this in the terrorists' attempt to take hostages in Nahariya.

Speaking on behalf of the Shay faction, MK Toledano said that the Cabinet's decision is not incidental and that there are doubts as to its ability to make the right decisions. According to him, the Cabinet was wrong in the way it made the decision, namely without thorough discussion, in concealing information from the Cabinet, giving in to extortions and an unjustified reliance on conscience.

Toledano asked the Cabinet whether it would have the courage to say that it was too hasty and has made a mistake.

First Motion Rejected

TA091110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Excerpts] The Knesset has rejected the no-confidence motion submitted by the Alinement and Shay factions on the issue of releasing 76 terrorists for the soldier Avraham 'Amram.

Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman responded to the no-confidence motion on behalf of the Cabinet. He said that there was no possibility of taking military action to release 'Amram and that his exchange for the terrorists was the only way to attain his release. Anyone who says that we should have avoided releasing terrorists must know that this would have meant forsaking 'Amram.

The defense minister said that there have already been precedents for releasing terrorists in return for hostages, and gave as an example the case of the El Al aircraft hostages snatched 11 years ago.

The no-confidence motion was submitted on behalf of the Alinment by Yig'ial Ailon.

Voting in favor of the no-confidence vote were the Alinment, Shay, Po'alei Agudat Yisra'el and the Citizens Rights Movement factions. The HADASH and Shelli factions abstained. The no-confidence motion was rejected by the majority vote of the Coalition factions.

Second Motion Rejected

TA091810 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] With a majority of Coalition votes the Knesset rejected a no-confidence motion submitted by the Shelli faction over the decision to allow army prosecutors to demand a death sentence for terrorists. Our correspondent in the Knesset, Moshe Hakohen, reports.
[Begin recording]

[Hakohen] Uri Avneri, on behalf of the Shelli faction, attacked the government on both moral and practical grounds for its decision to allow the death penalty for terrorists.

[Avneri] After every terrorist act there is an increased call for revenge. This is natural, but woe to the leader who submits to such impulses, be they his or others. To our great regret this is what seems to have happened to Mr Menahem Begin. The call for use of a death penalty did not come in a time of calm, nor was it born of rational considerations. It was made by him on the day following the Nahariya horrors, in an emotional moment, and he has not let go of it since.

[Hakohen] Neither gallows nor firing squads will lead to the cessation of the activities of the Palestinian organizations, Avneri says. They will only lead to corruption of the moral basis of the State of Israel, collapse of the Jewish morals on which we were brought up and will make us descend to the level of the worst and most ruthless of our enemies, and this--Avneri adds--will be the terrorists' real victory.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin replied to the motion and firmly rejected Uri Avneri's claim that his proposal was motivated by feelings of revenge born after the massacre in Nahariya.

[Begin] Is what we are doing a revenge? We want to prevent the repetition of these murders. We want to disperse them, make them flee so that they have no time to plan their murderous schemes, so that it is they who will have to defend their lives and they who will be persecuted and not our citizens, so that a mortal fear is injected into their bones.

[Hakohen] The prime minister mentioned the decisions of previous governments on this issue: a decision dating back to 1967 instructing the prosecutors not to require a death sentence, a decision made in 1974 which somewhat relieved the government from the earlier decision and a third decision, made in 1976, enabling a secret ministerial committee headed by Yitzhaq Rabin, the prime minister at the time, to instruct the prosecutors to demand a death sentence in a concrete [previous word in English] case. Now, the prime minister says, we have decided to leave the matter in the hands of the justices of the military courts who are just judges.

The Knesset voted at the end.

The Coalition factions were against the no-confidence motion while Shelli, RAKAH and a few of the Alinement members who remained in the plenary hall voted for the motion. The Alinement leaders, headed by Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin and Yig'al Allon, left the hall in protest against Shelli's not supporting the previous no confidence motion submitted by the Alinement with regard to release of terrorists.

MINISTERS COMMENT ON BEGIN'S AUTONOMY PLAN

TA091316 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 May 79 p 3 TA

[By Yosef Harif]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday firmly rejected the ideas included in a document submitted to him by the Defense Ministry as a contribution to the discussions on the autonomy to be held by the 11-man committee, and which were intended to express reservations on the autonomy principles he had worked out. Mr Begin ruled that the author of the document in the Defense Ministry did not understand the content of the Camp David accords and that his document does not correspond to that agreement.

Other committee members also strongly resented the Defense Ministry document, saying that it constituted a break with the Cabinet stance. The document was not signed by Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and in fact it is an opinion formed by the defense establishment. Statements made by the chief military attorney in other forums during the discussions preceding the establishment of the autonomy committee led its members to believe that the chief military attorney himself drew up the document presented to the committee by Deputy Defense Minister MK Mordekhay Zipori (the defense minister did not participate in yesterday's 11-man committee meeting).

Mr Zipori read the document to the members of the committee and was at times cut off by the prime minister.

The things that stood out in the document and which invoked the criticism of the prime minister and other Cabinet members are the following:

--While all agree that the source of authority in the autonomy should continue to be the military government, the Defense Ministry thinks that the source of authority will be an agreement which will be reached in the course of the negotiations on the autonomy by the various elements which, according to the Camp David accords, should take part in the negotiations--Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians.

--While everyone regards Jerusalem as an inseparable part of Israel, it being a sovereign part of Israel, and yet its status was not mentioned in the Camp David agreement at all, the Defense Ministry document raises the issue of the status of Jerusalem as an issue to be discussed during the negotiations on the autonomy.

--The document proposes granting Egyptian citizenship to the inhabitants of the Gaza Strip.

--Whereas the prime minister's document states that the supervision of the water sources will be in the hands of Israel, the Defense Ministry document proposes establishing a joint authority which will decide on developing the water sources and on water allocation.

Not all the members of the committee were able to speak during the hour and a half-long session yesterday. The prime minister, in addition to his critical comments on the Defense Ministry document, did not elaborate his explanations on the paper he had submitted to the committee. He will probably do so at the next session, next Monday.

Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir warned against entering into details that might devalue the Cabinet's position, as previous experience in the negotiations on the Sinai showed that anything that was said, even unofficially, seemed to the Egyptians to be a piece of data with which they could try to erode Israel's position.

He referred to those instances in the course of the negotiations with Egypt on the Sinai when members of the negotiating team took a stance different from that of the Cabinet, maintaining that it was an "unofficial" view, or one voiced "ad referendum" (requiring Cabinet approval). It seems that Minister Tamir meant that this position of the Defense Ministry might erode the Cabinet's position, even if it is not acceptable to the majority in the Cabinet.

Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon referred to the prime minister's document when he claimed that in his opinion the matter of the source of authority remains nebulous, because it is not clearly mentioned, but inferred, that is to say it is stated that the Israeli military government will "withdraw" and Israel interprets this as meaning that since the reference is to its withdrawal and not to its abolition, in its opinion the military government will continue to exist, and consequently it will constitute the source of authority for the autonomy.

Minister Sharon contended that the source of authority constitutes the foundations for the structure of the autonomy and that if this is shaken, everything will fall and it will not be possible to build on a vague basis.

The agriculture minister illustrated his argument with examples of what might actually happen if the source of authority is not in Israeli hands. The autonomy's administrative council can pass various regulations, but if the source of authority, which is allowed to limit the administrative council in passing certain regulations, is not absolutely clear, some very embarrassing situations may occur.

For example: Eggs can be imported from various countries at prices much lower than in Israel. Suppose the administrative council were to ask permission to pass a regulation stating that millions of eggs will be imported from abroad for marketing in Israel, the result would be hazardous, as this alone could be sufficient to ruin the source of income of a large number of Jewish settlements on the Judean hills, in the Galilee and in Jerusalem.

Another example could be in the field of health: The administrative council might refuse to pass regulations about various injections against various diseases such as smallpox. If there is no source of authority to compel it to do so, there will be danger that Israel, too, might be exposed to plagues.

Minister Sharon further claimed that if it is not absolutely clear from the start that Israel is the source of authority, in 5 years, when the time comes for final decisions on the future of Judaea and Samaria, Israel's position will be inferior to that of other Arab elements which will be parties to negotiations by virtue of the Camp David accords.

Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir also referred to the subject of the source of authority and supported at least a few of Minister Sharon's points. Nor did the prime minister rule out Minister Sharon's fears, but he apparently thinks that in order to make autonomy negotiations with Egypt possible, there is no need to clearly specify things in this article and that it is possible--as a basis for the negotiations--to make do with a formulation which is included in the Camp David accords (with respect to the "withdrawal" of the military government).

Deputy Prime Minister Prof Yiga'el Yadin expressed his opinion that there is no need for a detailed plan like the prime minister's and that it will be enough to work out several basic principles to provide guidelines for the team which will conduct the negotiations with Egypt.

The chairman of the six-member committee--which will negotiate with Egypt on the implementation of the autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District--Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg, also does not support the idea of preparing a more detailed plan.

It looks like Menahem Begin will only express his view on the comments he heard after the discussion is concluded and all the members of the 11-member committee have voiced their opinions. It is assumed that the discussion will end next week, at a session in which Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who returns to Israel at the end of the week, and Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, who was asked to explain the Defense Ministry's concept of the autonomy in person, will also participate.

YADIN DISCUSSES AUTONOMY, CRITICIZES LABOR PARTY

TA091736 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1410 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin interviewed by Yitzhaq Deutsch, Harry Rat and Yitzhaq Golan in the framework of "press conference"--live, in the studio]

[Excerpt] [Rat] With your permission Professor Yadin, I would like to switch from problems of war to problems of peace. The negotiations on autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District are to begin in 2 weeks. More than once, you came out in public as a fervent supporter of the autonomy plan. As a supporter of the autonomy, how do you regard the prime minister's present formula on opening positions for the negotiations--which include several serious problems, such as Israel's continuing control of the land and the water in Judaea and Samaria. It seems to me, this is a testing point even for the moderates among the Arabs in the West Bank. The second problem--which you are struggling against--is the new settlement in Judaea and Samaria during the negotiations.

[Yadin] First, I do not want to refer to the proposal of the prime minister or any other proposal. The 11-man committee of which I am a member, is still debating. As long as the debates continue I do not want to refer to any proposal. I can only tell you how I regard this problem.

True, I was one of the first supporters of the autonomy plan. However, at this point I think we should clarify: What is the autonomy plan? In one instance I even said: the geniality of the autonomy plan. If there is no solution today which can absolutely satisfy the desires of both sides and had the opening points for the negotiations been stated as, either my solution or your solution, then we would have never reached peace nor the opening of negotiations.

In my opinion, now that we are approaching the negotiations on the autonomy, we must tell both ourselves and the other side: If someone tries to introduce the best permanent solution, in his opinion, in the West Bank, Judaea, Samaria and Gaza into the autonomy plan then it would be better not to start the negotiations at all. The autonomy must solve the following problem: It is not possible to solve the problem according to our wishes or the wishes of the Arabs. Thus, the autonomy attempts to solve it as follows: Until the conditions are ripe to start negotiations on the permanent solution, let us say that we will give the Palestinian Arabs residing in the West Bank maximum autonomy on all issues which Israel really does not wish to interfere with.

However, there are vital Israeli interests in both the security within the autonomy boundaries and in national security. If someone tries to say that in the course of the autonomy we must give up these issues then, again, we will not reach anything. For instance, according to my movement's platform and my own belief, I am against settlements which are not for security purposes but meant to establish a Jewish settlement at the core of Arab settlement. However, I am for the so-called strongholds and settlements for security purposes, that is to say, the entire Jordan Rift Valley. These are vital for our security.

From the Egyptian and U.S. viewpoints, in spite of all the arguments between us, they do not differentiate. In their opinion, all settlement are illegal and constitute an obstacle.

[Golan] Nevertheless, they differentiate between them. Even the Egyptians do.

[Yadin] Perhaps there is a differentiation here or there, but always in the aftermath. Therefore, I say: Is it conceivable that during these negotiations which will last at least a year or maybe more--I only refer to the minimum possibility--we will cease to establish settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley, which are most vital from the security aspect?

The same holds true for the problem of domestic security. Can anyone conceive--in fact, this was already hinted at Camp David--that the State of Israel will give up its ability to prevent terrorist acts from the West Bank? This is inconceivable.

Therefore, I reiterate, and I have publicly declared so: Those 26 points proposed at the time by the prime minister as our plan for the autonomy--a plan which, by the way, was approved by the Knesset--these are the best opening points. In the meantime, there was another event: Camp David. What was agreed at Camp David commits us and in addition there is the second bible, the 26-point plan. There are several points which we should examine now. They should in no way contradict the Camp David accords but complement them. Finally, we are beginning negotiations. These negotiations will not deal exclusively with our wishes but with the other side's wishes as well. I hope that in a year each side will know its limits and a solution will be found. Everything cannot be solved at the outset.

[Golan] With your permission, let us switch to another subject...

[Yadin] I would like to make another point. I must say that of all the ongoing arguments about the autonomy, the arguments which really upset me are the position of the Labor Party and Mr Peres. They voted for the Camp David accords and now they come and say they oppose the autonomy plan and that this plan is catastrophic. I say this is sheer hypocrisy. Without the autonomy plan--and it does not matter what its outcome is or what happens during the negotiations--Camp David and the peace treaty would not have been reached. It is impossible to say today: We supported peace but we are against the autonomy plan. They can say they oppose this or that clause. However, to say they are opposed to the autonomy plan--I say this is sheer hypocrisy.

ECONOMIC SUBCOMMITTEE SUBMITS RECOMMENDATIONS ON AL-JARISH

TA100643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 May 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] The subcommittee on economic and trade affairs formed following the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt has concluded its work.

The subcommittee, operating within the framework of the Ben-Elisar committee, recommends taking action toward a gradual development of relations while taking into account to the utmost extent Egyptian sensitivities and favoring a direct dialog. The subcommittee's conclusions have reached our correspondent on economic affairs, Gidon Zellinger.

[Zellinger] Slowly, slowly--this is the slogan of the subcommittee and its chairman, the director general of the Finance Ministry, Amiram Sivan. Among the subjects requiring immediate treatment is that of Al-'Arish. The recommendation is to continue to employ the 3,500 workers who leave for Israel daily. The unorganized work will be terminated. A local inhabitant who ceases working in Israel will be entitled to receive the provident fund compensation and the benefits accruing to him. The National Insurance Institute will continue to grant disability allowances to those who were injured in Israel, and the severance pay due to the Al-'Arish workers will, on average, reach 8,500 Israeli pounds per person.

The Israeli plants will be removed from Al-'Arish. Israel will propose that Egypt continue to buy electricity from it.

A customs terminal will be established in the Yugoslav camp near Al-'Arish. A modern terminal will be established sometime in the near future near Kerem Shalom. Close inspection will be stringent, and also a bank branch will be established there. The arrangements are very similar to that on the Jordan River bridges.

As for transportation--the driver's license as in use all over the world. Insurance will be adjusted to the requirements. As for traffic violations--the same practice as is customary in each country. Cabs and buses--on a mutual basis.

As for the Bardawil Bay, the proposal is to allow the Israeli fish exporters to continue to purchase the fish and operate their installations there. Import and export practices will be continued in accordance with the customary rules. Yet there is one reservation: the assumption that at this stage the Egyptians are not expected to be very active. Initial proposals for the early stages will be most considerate of the sensitivities of our neighbors to the south and will favor direct dialog.

MINISTER BURGE SPEAKS AT INAUGURATION CEREMONY

TA091955 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1850 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Excerpt] Qatif, 9 May--Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg, the chairman of the ministerial team for the autonomy negotiations, said on Wednesday that in the negotiations Israel will insist on two points: A situation cannot be created whereby a Palestinian state will develop and be established; and, we shall never agree that we do not have a right to settle in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el.

Dr Burg, who delivered a speech in the ceremony founding the Qatif Council, the new regional council for the Israeli settlements in the Gaza Strip, stressed that he declares these two points despite the "diet" he imposed upon himself with regard to political declarations after he was appointed chairman of the autonomy team. "Some of our troubles are due to declarations," he said, adding that we got used to ministers making declarations and having to amend or deny them the following day.

"We have a peace treaty but we still have to struggle for true peace," Dr Burg said.

He emphasized that by establishing the new council another stone was laid in the wall of defense of the State of Israel. He called for the immediate establishment of public structures in the existing settlements and for the addition of more settlements.

"Our problem is one of proliferation or extinction, namely, either more people are channeled to all districts or the tap that gives us all the oxygen on which we live is turned off," he said.

ARENS STATEMENT CONTRADICTS COURT DECISION ON SETTLEMENTS

TA091127 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 9 May 79 p 20 TA

[From the "In the Country" column]

[Text] These matters have received no publicity, yet they have far-reaching implications.

The speaker was Herut movement rightwinger, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Prof Moshe Arens. In contrast to his colleagues, who prefer to drown their views in mystical verbiage, Arens is wont to talk on the point.

In a symposium held at Tel Aviv University in memory of [former chief of staff] David El'Azar, settlement in conquered territories was mentioned. Arens said that it has no security importance.

One of the debaters, Reserve Maj Gen Mati Peled, the chairman of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace and the head of Shelli's political department, could not believe his ears, as Arens' view was identical to his on this matter.

"Do you mean to say that the settlement activity has no security value," Peled wondered.

Arens did not retreat. He repeated: The settlements have no security value. It has political value only. Anyone who supports the existence of Israeli control over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip should also support settlement there, even though it does not have any defensive value.

Peled declared: This is a noteworthy piece of self-revelation. When one mixes political issues with defense issues, there is no foundation for argument. When it is clear that the settlement activity serves a political cause, there is room for a rational discussion.

Arens' words had one aspect which was not raised during that same debate. Several weeks ago, the Supreme Court expressed support of settlement in the West Bank, basing itself on a military report maintaining that the settlement activity is part of defense efforts. The court decided that it must accept the authorized opinion of military experts. Accordingly, it ruled that the settlement activity does not contradict the Geneva convention. This convention prohibits any demographic change in an area under the military rule of a conqueror, but permits the conqueror to take security measures.

Arens' statement dismissed the basis for that court judgment. When the chairman of a Knesset committee in charge of security issues determines that the settlement activity is not defensive but political, this binds the court as well.

GALLUP POLL INDICATES INCREASED POPULARITY OF ALINEMENT

TA091537 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 9 May 79 p 9 TA

[Text] The public's inclination to vote for the Alinment is growing in comparison to its inclination to vote for the Likud.

This is revealed by a public opinion poll conducted by the Israeli Gallup Institute at the request of the Shay faction during the last third of March, 1979, after the signing of the peace agreement with Egypt.

The survey was conducted among a representative cross section of 1,219 men and women from all over the country and it consisted of the adult urban Jewish population.

Three out of every ten interviewees (33 percent) said that they were inclined to vote for the Alinment, whereas 28 percent said they would tend to vote for the Likud. The survey further reveals that a little over 2 percent of the interviewees were inclined to vote for the Shay faction as against less than 1 percent who were inclined to vote for the Democratic Movement.

It should be noted that 24 percent either abstained or declined to answer the question about whom they would be inclined to vote for. This rate is slightly lower than in previous surveys and this indicates that a larger percentage of the public has formed a political opinion which affects its voting pattern.

Those who voted for the Alinment in the last election will vote again for that party. Of those who voted for the Alinment, 79 percent are inclined to vote for it again, and only 7 percent of those who voted for the Alinment in the last election are inclined to vote for the Likud. Similarly, it appears that those who voted for the Alinment know who not to vote for. Only 11 percent of them have either not yet decided or refuse to say.

Those who voted for the Likud are less loyal to their party: 60 percent of them are inclined to vote for the Likud again, against 16 percent who are inclined to vote for the Alinment. Seventeen percent of those who voted for the Likud in the last election have either not yet made up their minds or refused to reply.

As published previously, 42 percent of those who voted for the DMC are inclined to vote for the Alinment, and only 15 percent of them are inclined to vote for the Likud. Similarly, 8 percent of the DMC voters are inclined to vote for Shay, which seems to them to be the appropriate representative of the original DMC. The tendency to vote for the Democrats among the former DMC voters is less than 3 percent. At the same time, no less than 25 percent of those who voted for the DMC have not yet made up their minds.

The director of the current surveys department in the Gallup Institute, 'Amir 'Iron, remarks that these findings should only be regarded as suggestive. These findings merely reflect one trend and cannot be regarded as the absolute result of the voting patterns, even if they were to be held today.

GAZA STRIP NOTABLES FORBIDDEN EXIT TO DAMASCUS

TAO91834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 9 May 79 TA

[Text] The military authorities prohibited nine Gaza Strip notables known as terrorist supporters from leaving for Damascus to meet with PLO leaders including Yasir 'Arafat. Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar has learned that the notables were supposed to leave for Syria the day before yesterday at the personal invitation of the PLO leader, which was received about 2 weeks ago. Among the notables are Dr (Haydar 'Abd al-Shafi) and (Sulayman al-Aftal), Khan Yunus mayor.

BAZARGAN ADDRESSES NATION ON GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES, PROBLEMS

LD091822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1140 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Address to the nation by Iranian Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, carried by Iranian radio and television on 9 May--recorded]

[Excerpts] Greetings, dear compatriots: This time I have an ulterior motive in sending you my greetings, especially in view of the fact that I intend to deal with rural and urban issues in my speech. My presence in front of the cameras and your presence on the other side doesn't mean that I am going to give you something; rather I am here to ask something of you.

In one of my speeches before the Iranian New Year, I said that one of the priorities of the government would be to compensate our countrymen for the losses suffered when their shops and houses were destroyed during the onslaught by the dictatorship. Certain steps were subsequently taken along this path and our colleague, Interior Minister Sadr, contacted certain governorships and some towns like Esfahan, Zanjan, his hometown of Qazvin and other regions. Later it transpired that it was not a question of one or two houses or one or two shops; it was a question of hundreds. Here we were not talking about 100,000 tomans or 1 million tomans; it was a question of billions of tomans. Facing this situation and such colossal amounts, like Mullah Nasreddin [famous Iranian satirist] I did not rephrase my statement, but just kept quiet. Nevertheless, a statement had been made and therefore something had to be done. This was not something to be ignored just because there was no money available.

A simple answer to this question would have been to say: So what, whether it's 1 million, 10 million or 100 billion tomans, the government could make an assessment and then call on those who had suffered these losses and pay them. There are many who think this way. The point is that these people think that the government has an endless supply of money at its disposal, that it can handle the problem, or that it can go on printing money quite easily.

During one of my speeches, I did point out that, considering the expenditures and losses bequeathed to us from last year, and considering the loss of revenue, it was not that easy for the government to stand on its feet. Well, now the economic wheels are turning and, thank God, revenue is being received by the treasury and will continue to be received, God willing, in great amounts. However, we have a saying: Though the official may have a considerable supply at his disposal, there are still account books and a proper inventory for them.

My dear friend and colleague, the head of the planning and budget organization, is to explain the country's budget situation. I am not going to go into this in detail, but you can see the condition of the economy bequeathed to us by the satanic regime; you can see the backbreaking expenditures. The former regime, in managing the economy, not only plundered, swallowed and wasted as much as it could, but what it left for us is causing problems.

Right now, our government is confronted with a number of departments and institutions which are supposed to be useful and productive organizations, such as the Esfahan steel-works, the Sarcheshmeh copper mines, the Shahpur petrochemical complex and thousands of agricultural and nonagricultural, industrial and commercial enterprises. However, a close look at these enterprises shows that all of them cause expenditures and losses.

As I briefly pointed out some time ago, under a dictatorial regime, the government's sole concern is to have everything under its own control--to have absolute power and ownership. The other side of this coin is to have needy people--a poor nation, a nation always begging and therefore a nation subjugated and weak. This is the result of the concentration of power and wealth. This has been the practice during the 2,500 years of dictatorship in Iran; that is, government after government, dynasty after dynasty were in a race to increase the number of civil servants, from one shah to another. As for the number of civil servants, there are 800,000 official civil servants; when we add between 300,000 to 400,000 in the army, we have 1.2 million civil servants. Then there are those who work in, as it were, nongovernmental enterprises and companies, which are actually run by the government and government money. Here we reach a figure of 1.6 million.

This is the situation we are now facing. Then we come to their salaries in the government budget for 1978-1979. The sum earmarked in this budget to pay such salaries amounts to 100 billion toman, nearly 50 percent of government revenue. So you see, 50 percent of the revenue from oil, customs, tobacco and taxes collected by the government would go for nurturing subservient people and employees. Of course, this was deliberate; it was a calculated plan.

About 20 to 30 years ago, a U.S. study group arrived in Iran to study the situation and future plans. Reporting on Tehran, the group said that very soon, with the expansion and increase in government departments and organizations owned by the government, Tehran would be suffocated and explode. Incidentally, one of the factors contributing to the fall of the former regime was the haphazard and meaningless growth as well as the creation of a vacuum in the system established to safeguard the regime's dominance and power.

If we have carried out an antidespotic revolution, our action, therefore, should no longer be a despotic one; it should move exactly in the opposite direction. As far as possible we should hand back to the nation its sovereignty, its affairs, its authority, its responsibility and its initiative. We should hand the nation's affairs to the nation itself.

To further explain the matter and to clarify the duties entrusted to the new post of deputy prime minister for cooperation affairs, I will describe a few instances and examples--of course, a very brief description. The first example of asserting their status and carrying out management on the part of the people--something which is demanded by many, some with good intentions and some (?otherwise), but, nevertheless, something which is correct in principle--lies in the self-sufficiency of the provinces and various parts of the country, which obviates the need for every instruction, every order and every other necessity to emanate from the capital. Thus, the citizens of Kashan should handle their own affairs as much as they can, at the local level. Matters such as development projects, municipal affairs, water and electricity supplies, education up to high school level for example, and security matters--at least these matters should be entrusted to each province or city, for example, Khorasan, Azarbayjan, Kordestan, Baluchestan, Fars. The people know who is best for them as a mayor, as a governor, as a headmaster, so that these officials can be elected by the people themselves. This is a project which is, of course, being discussed in the Council for Revolution Projects. We hope, if we are able, even before the constituent assembly and such, to bring about as far as possible the creation of local councils at the provincial level, even if it is an experiment. Once this is achieved it would be better, it would be cheaper and it would be easier for the people as well as for the government.

Another example that can be cited concerns handing over very nominally nationalized enterprises which are, in practice, a part of the government's expenditure burden and which were set up for propaganda purposes to show the power of the palace, such as relief, charity, cultural, religious, sports and cooperative organizations and so forth. In the past, because they had no attachment to or interest in these organizations--in fact, they even mistrusted and hated the managers and heads of these organizations and knew that these organizations were intended as channels for expenditures and theft--the people used to keep away, naturally, whenever something like earthquakes or floods occurred. They would not help or give any money, because they knew that what they gave, such as blankets or foodstuffs, or even things which had come from abroad, would turn up in the open market for sale.

The third example concerns projects and activities such as the revolution Losses Compensation Fund or the Honor Loan Fund to provide loans for graduates during periods of unemployment--something of which I have spoken a few times in the past and something on which the Ministry of Labor is working.

The Losses Compensation Fund operates in the following manner: First, the governorates and governorates general will prepare lists of real estate, houses and shops, including the goods therein, on the basis of available information and records. This, of course, should be conducted in cooperation with and under the management of locally trusted people. These lists will be sent to Tehran. Now, where will the money for compensation come from? The people who have suffered losses did not engage in something or some action of a personal nature--the people who have been deprived of their homes and livelihood and who have become destitute--for it was due to a national revolutionary action that, for example, the Najafabad bazaar was destroyed in a big fire, or losses occurred at the bazaar in Qazvin, or any other town, say Zanjan or Sanandaj. As a rule and generally, no Iranian should enjoy a peaceful sleep or swallow a sweet morsel of food knowing that his compatriots or his fellow human beings somewhere else are without a home or livelihood, and knowing that these people had been victims of a national and universal action. This being so, the nation should make up for their plight. If we support equality and fraternity and if we believe that there should be no discrimination, then we should all join in and share this responsibility.

Fortunately, the homes, the property or shops which have been damaged by fire or in some other way total less than a one-thousandth or even a one hundred-thousandth of the total number of such properties throughout the country. Now, if we make a cautious approximation by assuming that the losses amount to a one-thousandth of the overall number of such properties throughout the country--then we could all help, for example, in this way: If my house has remained intact I would contribute one-thousandth of the value of my house to this fund--that is to say, for example, that if someone's house is worth 200,000 tomans he would contribute 200 tomans, or if someone's shop contains 1 million tomans' worth of goods he would contribute 1,000 tomans.

Now, you would want to know what the government would be doing in the meantime. First, the idea--the prescription, as it were--has been contributed by the government. Next, the first step in this regard will be taken by the government; that is to say, the arrangements, regulations and the underlying principles have already been drawn up.

Of course, I have not seen them yet. These have to be approved by the Cabinet. Later steps will come with government loans, when a national body is formed to compensate for losses resulting from the revolution and once it is certain it can collect funds and disperse them. In other words, the government will provide loans through the banks so that the paying of compensation may begin while the cash contributions and promisory notes are gradually collected.

One of the aspects of public cooperation--something which has already started and something in which workers and public servants and others have been actively involved for some time now--concerns the formation of committees or councils. However, in order to understand the matter more clearly we should bear in mind the various stages involved. The first stage concerned the emergence of these committees during the strike period. At that time, these committees were formed in factories, in government offices, in the bazaars or in mosques in order to express solidarity with the strike actions. The duty of the committees was to stop work; that is to say, there were not to be any oil exports, the customs department was to be closed, government factories were to be prevented from marketing their products--all this aimed at bringing the enemy and opponent to his knees.

So these committees were formed in a spirit of cooperation and unity of purpose and in a revolutionary spirit. After the victory and the fall of the regime, these committees changed in character, or else some people came forward in the name of the revolutionary councils.

Now that the provisional government has taken over and normalcy has gradually returned, it is obviously senseless to have any strikes; there is no sense in confrontation, strikes and sabotage, which, I deeply regret to say, continue in certain sectors. In a situation like this, one is reminded of a story by Sa'di [Persian poet] about someone's sitting on a tree branch while trying to saw it off.

Obviously, the people involved are being provoked; none of them are real workers. These are workers whose work ended months ago. For instance, some of them were working on construction sites or were engaged in excavation work on a road construction project. Some 6, 7 or 8 months ago their work was completed and their wages paid. Now there is other work to be done, like asphaltting. Here we have the same workers, whose number has fortunately been reduced, demanding to be paid for the entire period, a period during which they have done nothing. Now these people are demanding new year's bonuses, rewards and so forth as well as a commitment. So what do they do? They stop contractors and take hostages and sabotage machinery, thus preventing the project's being continued--the very project meant to benefit the country and build roads, and a project on which 2,000 to 10,000 workers should work.

As you can see, the committees that were formed have different duties and roles at any given time. Now that work has been resumed, there must exist committees--no doubt about it--not to sabotage or obstruct, but to help the system to work better and increase its efficiency. There was a time when the system belonged to the enemy--belonged to despotism and foreigners, with its revenue being pocketed by aliens. Now it belongs to the nation and the country. Now what is expected of these committees is their cooperation and the protection of their interests. This is quite logical and appropriate; it is expected of them.

Another stage is cooperation with the system, a system which is in principle and basically theirs and will grow. So they must cooperate, provide guidelines for its plans and give advice. But the job of the committees is not to interfere in the management, or to do away with responsibility and disintegrate the system. Nowhere in the world is it customary to provide management from the bottom of the line. If shortcomings are noticed in a system, it is not advisable to correct them from within [as heard] or down the line; rather these deficiencies should be corrected from the top and from outside. I have adequately covered this in my speeches in television discussions.

At any rate, I regret that my speech tonight has been rather rigid.

We cannot expect a government to change its nature by simply calling it a people's government, republican, constitutional or democratic. A government must really be democratic, Islamic, revolutionary and popular. As long as the government, as it did during the reign of dictatorship, controls everything, with the nation looking up to it, begging from it, then we would have the same order all over again, such a government, regardless of whether it was headed by the most democratic, most humanitarian, the most faithful and the most Islamic individual, would be just the same. Consequently, to guarantee against a reversal of the situation, to prevent despotism from dominating again, it is necessary for the nation to get involved, enter the arena and shoulder its own burden. Should we fail to do this, should we expect the government to foot the bill for such matters as sending the young abroad for education or for compensation funds and so forth and so on, this would defeat our purposes and would make the burden shouldered by the government so heavy that we would not be able to do the things we are able to do right now.

At any rate, this is the situation, this is the arena. We are therefore calling on our compatriots to demonstrate their manly power and to take control of their own fate and duties. I hope God will protect all of you. Once we enjoy our independence, we shall be able to crush internal and foreign enemies through our cooperation.

KHOMAYNI ACCUSES U.S. OF SABOTAGING REVOLUTION

LD092322 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution, in an interview with the French newspaper LE MONDE, accused the United States of sabotaging the Iranian revolution and rebutted the claim that leftists had taken part in the recent murders in Iran.

KHOMAYNI'S BUREAU DENIES REPORT ON NATIONAL COUNCIL

LD100932 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 10 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by Imam Khomeyni's bureau today:

In His Almighty name, what has been published in the newspaper PEYGHAM-E EMRUZ to the effect that a national council has been formed on the imam's orders composed of political parties and religious and nonreligious parties is an utter lie and the imam's bureau strongly denies this report.

This bureau is determined to respond appropriately to false and deviationist reports and to convey His Great Eminence Imam Khomeyni's views on such newspapers.

[Signed] Qom, Imam Khomeyni's Bureau.

PAPERS REPORT ON NAVY COMMANDER'S STATEMENT ON POLICY

LD092245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The paper AYANDEGAN devotes its frontpage headline to the interview given by Dr Madani, commander of the navy and governor general of Khuzestan, saying: We will help the people of the sheikhdoms if they are threatened by communists. The paper, which gives its source as AP, writes the following: Vice Admiral Madani, who took part in a press conference in Abadan, in reply to the question whether Iran would help the Persian Gulf sheikhdoms who are threatened by communist influence, said: We will endeavor not to interfere in the affairs of other countries, but should people who cannot defend themselves request our help, it is our duty to help them.

KEYHAN, however, has published this report in a different way. In reply to the same question, KEYHAN wrote: Vice Admiral Dr Madani replied: For us the question of the communists does not arise and we have nothing to do with what goes on and who is in power in such and such a country. This is because the policy of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is based on the fact that it should not interfere in other countries. We do not wish to renew the adventure which was carried out by the former regime in Dofar. But should an oppressed people, who cannot defend their existence request help, by the dictates of our humanitarian duties and not as interference in their internal affairs, if possible and within our power, we will not refrain from giving them help. It is necessary to remind you that this help will under no circumstance be in the nature of interference in any country and will be exclusively in the nature of humanitarian help..

ETTELA'AT and BAMDAD, too, have reported the issue in a manner similar to KEYHAN. Quoting Madani in reply to the same question, BAMDAD writes: We shall endeavor at present, so long as the Iranian people's interests are not harmed, to refrain from international involvements and will never intervene, as the deposed shah did, in quelling such revolts as that of Dofar. However, should a colonialist-stricken people, who have languished for years under the scourge of colonialism request help, we will indubitably deem it our duty to help within the limits of international standards.

Pursuing the same issue KEYHAN adds: KEYHAN's correspondent asked Vice Admiral Madani's views on helping the Palestinians in the region, in connection with the issues raised during the interview with the commander of the navy and the governor general of Khuzestan. Vice Admiral Dr Madani said: You yourself know that the struggling Palestinian people have for years been beset by international colonialism and, by rights of being Muslims, of humanity and of help to all the oppressed strugglers, we deem it our duty not to shrink from rendering any help and undoubtedly we will not shrink from doing so.

TEHRAN EXPLAINS REASON FOR RECENT EXECUTIONS

LD091529 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The revolutionary courts, which are a manifestation of the revolutionary will of our people and a sure token of the continuation of the movement, consistently pursue their work and realize the wish of the masses to safeguard the valuable and blood-stained heritage of the revolution, and to purge the society of the garbage from the rotten imperial regime.

The result of the courts' work in issuing the death sentences announced yesterday and today assure the people of the continuation of the revolution and disappoint the enemies' hopes for the emergence of a stoppage or decline in the course of the revolution. Let the proponents of human rights of the U.S.-type raise a cry and complaint once again over the firmness and decisiveness of the courts, which are an embodiment of the wrath of the people. Their wailing will not alter the course of the revolution.

Pardon and oversight for these criminals is tantamount to compromise with the counter-revolution and allowing it to grow, and amounts to wasting the blood of the martyrs whose blood has still not disappeared from the walls of the city. Such compromise amounts to condoning the activity of the remnants of the previous regime and the SAVAK agents, who are shedding the blood of our guards and ordinary people every day up and down the country and in Tehran, and are sending a great many youths to their graves.

The experience of the brief post-revolution period has shown that whenever a stop or slow-down in the work of revolutionary courts takes place, the efforts and struggle of the guards and the guerrillas abate; whenever the pace of arrests is allowed to slow down, the antirevolution agents feel encouraged to creep out of their holes and embark on adventures.

It is the fugitives of the previous regime and fellow travellers of those executed that have kindled the flame of tragedies in Kordestan, Gonbad and Naqadeh. To pardon them and overlook their activities is to allow the creation of fresh tragedies, which the people will never accept. If the courts are unable to fulfill their responsibility, or do not wish to, the people may directly seek revenge, and the fruit of this will be chaos and confusion for the country, which benefits no one.

What kind of people were executed these last 2 days? Heads of the previous regime whose pens were the source of oppressive laws, crushing decrees and people's suffocation; subservient army commanders who ordered the massacre of innocent people; SAVAK wolves who took for their prey the most honorable sons of the people and tore to pieces the most pure of human beings; and finally, capitalists with connections who obtained their staggering wealth through injustice and plundering of the people, and used their incalculable riches as a base for the influence of aliens in the country, and to increase their plundering of the deprived people and to spread poverty and corruption in the society. These pharaohs of our time are, according to the Koran, the most profound example of sowing corruption on earth. The execution of these leeches of [word indistinct] is in fact tantamount to execution of the capitalism they were attached to, execution of the order under which such creatures were able to live and grow. It is, meanwhile, the best guarantee for the defenseless people whose bones have been crushed under the pressure and onus of these overlords. Such inequality and oppression shall never reemerge in the society.

The great hand of the people shakes the hands of the courageous judges who attest to the genuineness of our revolution and attest to its permanence with the issuance of revolutionary orders.

Tehran on Elqanian's Execution

LD091804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Menahem Begin, the prime minister of Israel, expressed regret today at the execution of Habib Elqanian. Jerusalem Radio announced that one of Elqanian's brothers lives in Israel.

Elqanian, who was executed by firing squad at dawn today in Tehran, had been accused of spying for Israel, collecting help and donations for the benefit of the Israeli Army in order to bombard defenseless Palestinian women and children and of collaborating in killing the struggling Palestinian people.

Habib Elqanian, the venal capitalist of Zionism, together with a number of other anti-people pawns of the imperial regime, was executed today. This execution, while simultaneously gladdening the hearts of the Iranian nation, has inordinately terrified and disturbed the leaders of world Zionism. For this reason Mr Menahem Begin has announced his regret at this execution and said that he will continue his efforts in order to stop the executions in Iran.

This philanthropic expression of regret demonstrates the nature of all the noise and din by the holier-than-the-pope West, whose heart is sorrowing for these murderers and whose interests such clamor serves; and, on the other hand, this serves as a warning to the Iranian nation that it should unmask as soon as possible the antinational schemes of Zionism, which have taken place utterly mysteriously and secretly, and should duly punish the perpetrators of the same, who have always donned the mask of impartiality in political affairs and even, as in the case of Elqanian, of benevolent and good people, for their anti-Iranian actions.

Along this path our noble Jewish patriots, who adopt an anti-Zionist position, will do their greatest efforts in the hope that the anti-Zionist struggle of the Iranian nation may surge forward to its very last phase.

KEYHAN Views London Reaction

LD092300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

The KEYHAN devotes its commentary of the day to the question of the execution of criminals and under the heading "The Mouthpieces of Imperialism Are Making Themselves Hoards," writes:

The voice of justice and revolution has once again panicked the international plunderers and their blue-eyed masters. London Radio which seems to be the voice of the banks, the international monopolies and the vast capitals soaked with the blood of the nations, with sarcasm and a vicious sting, resorted to blaming and reproaching our revolution. The professional philanthropists have put on a sour face at the execution of the criminals. London Radio refers to the recent revolutionary executions as tantamount to a barbarous act reminiscent of the stone age. But it prefers to remain silent about those stone-age savages who imposed all the barbarism and brutishness of the cave-dwelling age on our society and tore to pieces the most patriotic and noblest women and men of this society in torture dungeons which were the fiendish instruments of skillful experts and which were the direct products of the U.S. British and Israeli philanthropic imperialists.

London Radio, adopting a lordly manner, rises to the defense of those people who used to set loose handcuffed political prisoners on the hills of the Evin political prison and the interrogators would then machine-gun them down. The BBC is defending those criminals who made the Nazi crimes and black deeds look innocent. London Radio, a mouthpiece of world-guzzling capitalism, which seems to continue to dream of that empire on which the sun never set, defends those torturers who used to torture the prisoners in order whip up an appetite.

London Radio, which like its U.S. human rights counterparts, is sorrowing for the criminals of the shah's regime, may imagine that the Iranian Government has forgotten the most horrible political prison in the world which the English set up in Ireland and which has made public just a few months ago and the representatives of Amnesty International declared that prisoners in that prison had been subjected to medieval tortures.

London Radio, which in its last night's commentary shamelessly compared Iran's revolutionary regime with that of the hangman shah, must imagine that our people are unaware of English crimes throughout the world and do not know that English and Western so-called civilized Western agents have already put in shackles 300,000 black strugglers, most of whom have been sentenced to death.

We ask: Philanthropic gentlemen, why have you kept quiet about these facts? We declared to the blue-eyed masters and their mouthpieces, gentlemen, you have read the facts as a blind man would. Our nation is not deceived by your stratagems; and your false sympathy and crocodile tears will only expose you more and will further disgrace the ugly face of world capitalism.

TEHRAN COMMENTS ON FUTURE IRANIAN-BRITISH RELATIONS

LD091835 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1311 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary entitled: The Future of Relations Between Iran and the British Conservative Government]

[Excerpts] Following the British elections and the victory of the Conservative Party, the question posed for political observers is: Considering the triumph of Islamic revolution in Iran, what will be the nature of future relations between this country and the new government in Britain?

Now let's see, considering the victory of the Iranian Islamic revolution, how can one get an insight into the future of relations between Iran and the British Conservative government?

Mrs Thatcher, as the leader of the Conservative Party, particularly during the past couple of years while she was campaigning, considering her rightwing policy and her party's economic policy in one hand, aimed at attracting more and more capital from countries like Iran, and on the other hand she always supported the former Iranian regime. It was because of this that she visited Iran in April, 1978, and met and conferred with the ousted shah.

It is believed that prior to the revolution by the Iranians, Thatcher was entertaining the idea that once in power she could expand her country's colonialist relations with the former regime in Iran and, in view of her party's free market policy, attract more Iranian capital in her country. However, following the revolution in Iran, all these ideas entertained by Mrs Thatcher and other (?party) leaders in Britain have been rendered null and void. The most prominent (?aspect) of the Islamic revolution in Iran is its anti-imperialist character.

After years of struggle against imperialism, the Iranian people are no longer prepared to have any relations, other than mutual respect, with Britain.

Considering these problems, the new British Government must discard the policies pursued by previous governments in that country as well as the policies adhered to by the Conservative party; it must adopt rational relations with Iran. This means that it should take care to respect Iran's independence.

The most important issues facing future relations between Iran and Britain are: To clarify Iran's investments in Britain, particularly the North Sea oil, and repayment of Iran's loan by the Conservative government in a manner whereby the interests of the defenseless Iranian people are not transgressed. Then there is the question of the money received by the British Government for the purchase of arms. The British Government must not demand any compensations on account of the agreements signed by the former regime for the purchase of modern arms.

As for the sale of oil to Britain, the National Iranian Oil Company [NIOC] will sell oil to the British oil company on the basis of a 6-month contract signed with a great many oil companies. At any rate, in view of the fact that following the victory of the Islamic revolution, Britain can no longer have any interests in Iran, whether we like it or not this cannot please the new British leaders. It would be quite appropriate at this point to recall remarks made by the leader of the Islamic revolution, Khomeini, at a meeting of the Islamic Liberation Party, during which he said: "Britain and the United States have now mobilized their forces even more in order to create division in Iran. This means that like the United States, Britain too has realized that the Islamic revolution will not under any circumstances allow Iran's interests to be controlled unilaterally by the imperialists.

LACK OF SECURITY NOTED ON ILAM-ESLAMABAD HIGHWAY

LD092159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS dispatch, lack of security on the Ilam-Eslamabad, formerly Shahabad, highway has reached its zenith. According to a dispatch from the PARS correspondent in Ilam, a lot of tribesmen, including members of the big Sevel tribe, and a number of office workers have staged a sit-in in the Ilam Governorate General office and called for an immediate quelling of the armed highwaymen on the Ilam-Eslamabad Highway and, while supporting the governor general, called on him to allow the tribes and clans to crush the armed brigands.

Seyyed Asadollah Amir-Qahremani, the governor general of Ilam, who is strongly disturbed by the repeated acts of brigandage on the Ilam-Eslamabad Highway, addressed those who are staging the sit-in, saying: Rest assured that as of today we will act decisively in order to crush the brigands on this highway and, should it be necessary, I myself will go to the area with the law enforcement officers and guerrillas in order to quell the brigands, even if I get killed in doing this.

Our correspondent reported: While the Ilam governor general was busy talking to those staging the sit-in, a number of other people came to the governorate general office and declared that the brigands had held them up on the Ilam-Eslamabad Highway and robbed them of their money and effects.

In an interview with the PARS correspondent the governor general of Ilam, Asadollah Amir Qahremani, said: Although it was decided that law enforcement forces from Kermanshah and Ilam should jointly control the Ilam-Eslamabad Highway, the law enforcement forces have not appeared on the spot for the past 4 days.

HEAVY RAIN CAUSES FLOODING IN BIRJAND, KASHAN REGION

LD091939 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Due to heavy rain during the past 24 hours, 10 hamlets near the provincial city of Birjand have been flooded and farmers have suffered huge material losses. According to our correspondent, the managing director of the Red Lion and Sun Society of Birjand and a group of gendarmes from the Birjand Battalion, have engaged in relief work for the victims of the floods. After talking to responsible official of the Red Lion and Sun Society in Kerman Province, it was announced that in the hamlets of Kushk and Esma'ilabad great damage was done to the plantations and fruit crops but there was no loss of lives.

According to a report from the gendarmerie battalion in Birjand, four houses were destroyed in the hamlet of Kushk and the necessary measures have already been taken to rehouse their residents. The responsible official of the Red Lion and Sun Society in the province, discussing the damages caused by yesterday's floods in the hamlet of Anarestanak and Township of Ferdows, announced: the flood has caused the loss of one life and injuries to 25 people; and at a request from the society's managing director in Ferdows, 40 tents and 100 blankets have been dispatched from Mashhad to the area and, according to a subsequent request, another 60 tents will be dispatched to Anarestanak tomorrow morning.

On the other hand, due to the rains and the floods in the Kashan Region and in several hamlets around it, several plantations and their agricultural produce have been damaged.

According to a PARS dispatch, most of the highways in this region have also been flooded making traveling by road dangerous. The joint committee made up of officials of the Kashan Governorate and the Red Lion and Sun Society, with the cooperation of the road and transport department and the Qom Governorate, has at present taken steps to reconstruct and repair the roads in the area.

The rain caused the roof of a house in the hamlet of Karamah to cave in on four members of a family, all of whom were killed by falling masonry. The bodies of the victims of this tragedy were buried after carrying out the necessary legal ceremonies. The heavy rainfall in the hamlet of Elahiyeh, 75 km from Rafsanjan, caused flooding and, regrettably, a large number of houses in this hamlet were destroyed, the torrential floods claimed the lives of a woman and two young children.

According to our correspondent's dispatch from Kerman, immediately after the flood, the governorate and the staff of the Islamic revolution in Rafsanjan took extensive steps to render aid in securing foodstuffs and drinking water for the people of the Elahiyeh hamlet and already the Islamic Revolutionary Guards of Rafsanjan and Ferdows are giving relief aid to the flood victims.

CITIZENS OF QAZVIN GIVEN 10 DAYS TO TURN IN WEAPONS

LD092356 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the public prosecutor for Qazvin's Islamic revolution:

The citizens of Qazvin, Takestan, Alamut and the surrounding district are herewith given 10 days to hand in any weapons they might possess to the central committee in Qazvin. Should weapons be found in a house or on a person after 18 May, those responsible will be severely punished. It is taken for granted that members of the Islamic Revolution Guards, who carry identity cards, are exempt from this order.

Similarly, the public prosecutor for Qazvin's Islamic revolution has announced: Anyone who has any complaints against Maj Boluri-Kashani, head of counterintelligence of the Qazvin police; 'Aref Raji, SAVAK deputy head; Lt Habib Rezazadeh, an officer of the 16th Armored Division in Qazvin; or Sirius Salehi should communicate his complaints within 10 days to the office of the public prosecutor for Qazvin's Islamic revolution.

FORMER DEPUTIES ASKED TO REPORT TO ESFAHAN PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

LD092357 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The office of the public prosecutor for Esfahan's Islamic revolution has announced: 'Abdolhoseyn Mani, Sayyed-Ali Sa'ed, Mostafa Toghiani, Navvab Safa and Mrs Borumand, former deputies to the National Consultative Assembly from the province; and also Hasan Owhabi, deputy for Homayunshahr; Heydarqoli Borumand, deputy for Khar and Meymeh; Ja'farqoli Nayyerzadeh, deputy for Ardestan; Mrs Taba, deputy for Na'in; Mortezaqoli Kian, deputy for Shahreza, should present themselves at the office of the Islamic revolution's public prosecutor in Esfahan.

FORMER OFFICER OF TABRIZ UNIVERSITY GUARDS ARRESTED

LD092358 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Tabriz city's Islamic Revolutionary Court announced today: Maj Mohammad-Hoseyn Zehsazan, the son of Gholam Reza, and officer in charge of the guards of Tabriz University from 1971 to 1976 and a police officer in Khorramabad, is now under arrest by the public prosecutor's office. All those who have complaints against or information about him are requested to communicate as soon as possible with the Tabriz detention center, taking with them all relevant evidence.

'PSEUDOCLEERGYMAN,' OTHERS ARRESTED IN BEHSHAHR

LD092359 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards of Behshahr have arrested a pseudoclergyman and five other people employed by various organizations in this provincial city. They have been accused of collaboration with SAVAK. According to a PARS agency correspondent's dispatch, Behshahr's Islamic Revolutionary Committee, in announcing the names of these individuals, called on all those with complaints and those who have any information or evidence of the antipeople activities of the accused, to contact the office of the public prosecutor.

The names of those under arrest are as follows: pseudoclergyman Taqi 'Abbasi; Mohammad-Reza Falahatgar, a member of the staff of the Sari atomic power station; Mehdi Rahimian, a worker at the calico manufacturing works in Behshahr; Mohammad Behmanesh, a bookkeeper at Behshahr's Hashtrudi secondary school; Asghar Kiani, a technician at the Behshahr calico manufacturing works; and 'Ali Kianian, a worker at the Behshahr calico manufacturing works.

KERMAN COURT SENTENCES 5 AGENTS, PARDONS 2

LD091758 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Last night, in its eighth and ninth sessions, the Islamic Revolution Court of Kerman started consideration on the files of five agents of the previous regime from the Rabar District of Kerman, and after hearing bills of indictment by the court prosecutor, defense statements and testimony of witnesses, the court eventually went into deliberation and sentenced Mohammad Neki Rustami Rabari to 5 years of correctional imprisonment for the crime of convening counterrevolution assemblies, participation in [words indistinct], plunder and destruction of people's properties and opposition to the revolution and crushing the revolutionaries; Col Mohammad Rezyzat-Bakhsh to 2 years imprisonment and 80 lashes, and Akbar Nazari, a sergeant in the Rabar gendarmerie year's exile to Jiroft with the keeping of his job.

Two other accused people, Hoseyn Mahdi and Ramezan Kamali, were pardoned.

The Kerman Islamic Revolutionary Court also considered the files of two pseudoreligious leaders, Hasan Movahhed-Zadeh known as Sheykh Hasan Pur-Lashkari, and Sheykh Fazlollah Musabegi Dehabadi, and eventually sentenced the pseudoreligious leader Movahhed-Zadeh under charges of espionage against religious leaders for the SAVAK branch of Kerman and receipt of a monthly salary and allowance from SAVAK, while taking into consideration the contents of the file and the accused's confession, to defrocking and 6 months of correctional imprisonment. The court also sentenced the other pseudoreligious leader Musabegi to defrocking and loss of privileges such as receipt of tuition and religious funds, speaking in the pulpit and holding congregational prayers, for the crime of acting against the Islamic revolution and creating disunity, and threatening and intimidating the people of Mahan.

RASHTI POLICEMAN EXECUTED; SAVAK OFFICIAL JAILED

LD091903 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Rasht's Islamic Revolution Court held a session at the city's naval barracks yesterday, and after hours of investigations and deliberations, passed the following sentences on two of the accused:

The accused of the first degree, policeman Ahmad Ebrahimi, for the crime of opening fire on the night of 1 January 1979, culminating in the martyrdom of a youth called Hazibzadeh, was sentenced to death and the sentence was carried out this morning. The court also decided to pay the last salary and perquisites of Qasem Ahmad Ebrahimi as a life pension to his family.

The accused of the second degree, called Hojjatollah Foruzan, an official employee of SAVAK, was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment.

ESFAHAN COURT ORDERS FLOGGING FOR GANG LEADER

LD091910 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 May 79 LD

[Text] Esfahan's Islamic Revolutionary Court last night passed sentence on Hoseyn Saberi, better known as Hoseyn Sibil, who led club-wielding gangs in that town. In accordance with the court's sentence, he was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment and 100 lashes of the whip.

DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES FUTURE POLICY

DW091315 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 2000 GMT 8 May 79 DW

[Excerpts from moderator Dieter Kronzucker recorded interview with Dr Sadeo Tabatabai, deputy interior minister of Iran, in Bonn in German]

[Text] [Question] What is your mission in Bonn?

[Answer] Prime Minister Bazargan gave me the mission to go to Germany and to establish some contacts with German politicians. In addition I am supposed to visit the Iranian Embassy in Bonn and some cultural departments in Europe to outline respective directions for the Iranian revolution and the Iranian foreign policy.

[Question] Is that some sort of a test of religious convictions?

[Answer] No, you cannot call it that.

[Question] Will new Iran adhere to the commitments accepted under the shah, such as arms purchasing, nuclear powerplants, and so forth?

[Answer] No, arms purchasing will stop completely. We will not need any military arms in future any more, at least not in the way they have been bought before. For this purpose we canceled contracts with the Federal Republic on the procurement of submarines. By the way, this point was discussed between me and Federal Minister Lambsdorff.

[Question] And nuclear powerplants?

[Answer] They will not be built in future. The existing contracts with the Federal Republic are being examined. Respective suggestions will be made by Iran in the future.

[Question] How can the executions in Iran be brought into accord with ideas regarding a civilized society?

[Answer] These are not political enemies of the present system or the present government. These people are just mass murderers who have committed crimes in the past. You know that the death penalty is the severest penalty in our country. If the guilt of a culprit is proven by documents after, let us say 10 hours, 20 hours, 2 days, or a week, the court has completed its mission. The idea of retaliation does not exist in Islam, so that there exists no revenge or retaliation. You can speak of expiation at best, and that pertains to those who have committed crimes. Expiation is executed with greatest mercy.

NVOI DISCUSSES WORKERS DAY CELEBRATION

TAO22200 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 2100 GMT 2 May 79 TA

[Text] Dear compatriots, thanks to the blessings of the victorious revolution of the people, Iran, our tortured and oppressed country celebrated the festival of May 1, Workers Day, throughout our fatherland under free conditions.

The victorious revolution of the people of our country changed the image of holidays. Previously, during the slavery days of our people, the days like the coup d'etat of 28 Mordad and the birthdays of bloodthirsty kings like Mohammad Reza Shah were being celebrated, but the day of the peoples' revolution, the day of the establishment of the Islamic Republic and May 1 were not celebrated in our country, but as the saying goes, "When the devil disappears the angel appears." When, through the struggles of its heroes, a nation pulls the oppressors, the tyrants and murderers down from their thrones and [word indistinct] of power, it paves the way for freedom, for the angel of happiness to fly over the heads of hard-working people.

This year the festival of May 1 was celebrated under conditions for which the people of Iran had paved the way through their victorious revolution. This year the festival of May 1, the festival of work and pain was celebrated under free conditions in our country.

The festival of May 1 is not a simple festival. It reflects the might of the workers. Regardless of their religious and political convictions, the old and the young, men and women, laborers and farmers, employees and clergymen demonstrated their united might hand-in-hand in order to defend their work and to uproot all types of tyranny.

The wisdom and philosophy of the reality of May 1 is that it is celebrated from the East to the West of the globe, that Muslims and Christians, Japanese and Portuguese participate in celebrating this festival together, and that their work and toil is useful in making all mankind equal and sharing its destiny, because mankind has a common cause which is to enjoy the fruits of its toil, so that one would exploit and plunder it, so that no government would make unreasonable demands from another government, and rather they would all live together in peace and security.

Those who participate in the festival of May 1, bring along slogans into the streets and struggle for the realization of their dreams.

The people of Iran have always shared these dreams, but our murderer monarchs prevented the people from celebrating May 1 freely in the streets.

The treacherous regime of Pahlavi and the damned apparatus of the SAVAK forced the people to celebrate May 1 behind prison bars.

This year, in spite of the Pahlavis and in spite of the imperialists and the aggressors, the people of Iran who destroyed the prisons and ruined the palaces through their revolution, celebrated May 1 in vast numbers in the streets.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING CITY COUNCILS ISSUED

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 29 Apr 79 p 2 WA

[Excerpts] Provisional councils with the participation of the representatives of the various groups within the community shall be constituted in the provincial centers and cities. In light of the principles and achievements of the Islamic revolution, the provisional councils shall deliberate upon construction and development projects and upon the establishment of revolutionary order. The councils will also review development projects which are presented by authorized representatives or specialists or competent individuals.

The opinion of the council concerning such proposals will be given to the office of the governor general for review and forwarding to the provisional government of the Islamic revolution. The Ministry of the Interior will provide instructions to the offices of the governors general via circulars.

In consideration of its bureaucratic and revolutionary duties, the Ministry of the Interior is the proper point of reference for this program. Consequently provisional councils--including the representatives of various popular groups--shall be formed in the center of each province and city. Through deliberations and where necessary via elections of a group from among the people, these councils shall be established according to the following guidelines:

The honorable gentlemen of the religious community--two persons; the judges and attorneys--one person (if there should be more than 40 attorneys in the provincial center or if the provincial center should be the site of an independent bar association, then the membership on the provincial council shall include one judge and one additional person selected from the attorneys; if the provincial center has a university or institution of higher learning they shall have two representatives--one person selected from the teaching staff, and one from the student body; the intelligentsia--one person; the civil servants--whether active or retired--one person; the government and private banks--one person; physicians and the medical profession--one person; merchants and members of guilds--one person; farmers--one person; tribesmen depending on the proportion of the tribal population relative to the number of city and village dwellers--a maximum of three persons; workers depending on their number in the area--one or two persons; other groups of the people--one person (this individual is to be from the enlightened class).

Those accused of criminal activities may not have membership. This was confirmed in the continuation of the circular: None of the representatives on these councils, which will be formed through deliberation and group elections, may have had active membership i.e. served on the central committee, or on the provincial, city or secretarial levels) in any of the parties of the former regime--Melliyun, Mardom, Iran Novin, or Rastakhiz. Membership in these provincial councils and in the city councils as well should not be given to members of the associations and houses of parliament which were constituted via membership in the above cited parties. The same is true of those who had influential positions in the country under the former regime, or who were associated with the police or security forces of the old regime.

Membership on a provisional council is an honor, and no one may serve on more than one council.

The councils in the provinces and cities shall hold meetings every Wednesday afternoon, and by Thursday evening three sessions shall have been convened. If necessary, extra sessions will be held. With due consideration to the location, the members of the council shall determine the procedures to be followed in holding the meetings of the provisional councils at the provincial and city level.

Should it be necessary, the Ministry of the Interior may dispatch a representative or delegation to the province to insure proper creation of the councils. In such a case the office of the governor general will enforce the observations of the representative or visiting delegation.

LATE REPORT: KHOMEYNI INTERVIEW WITH LE MONDE

LD101145 Paris LE MONDE in French 10 May 79 pp 1, 6 LD

[Eric Rouleau interview undated; Qom interview with Ayatollah Khomeyni: "Ayatollah Khomeyni Asks France 'Not To Associate Itself With Plots Against the Revolution'"]

[Text] Qom--"The greatest danger threatening the Iranians is U.S. imperialism," Imam Khomeyni repeated, with a preoccupied air, during the interview he granted us in his residence in Qom. The leader of the Iranian revolution, sitting cross-legged on the floor in a little reception room bare of furniture and whose floor is covered with a blue carpet of mediocre quality, answered our questions, his gaze fixed on nothing.

The modest single-story house he occupies is in an alley in a dilapidated quarter, where a restricted section is closed to traffic. A handful of militiamen stand nonchalantly in front of the door, armed with Uzis, a kind of light submachinegun made in Israel with which the shah's special forces were equipped. A crowd of pedestrians stand nearby, some holding papers--petitions or letters setting out their grievances--and others hoping to catch a glimpse of the nation's "guide" so as to show him affection and devotion.

Exhausted by months of intense activity, the 78-year-old imam has started rationing his appearances on the roof of his house, where he replies generally to the ovations of the faithful. He has begun to regulate his habitual use of time, which was made up of receiving individuals and people's delegations from morning to night as they came to lay their problems before him or share their aspirations with him. From now on he will only receive his visitors twice weekly, at fixed times.

Members of the government, who travel around 300km from and back to Tehran every Thursday to consult him, unenthusiastically share his frugal, unchanging lunch: white rice; yoghurt and raw onions....

The Qom patriarch is constantly surrounded by his family; in particular his elder son, Sayid Ahmed, his closest collaborator, and his grandson, Sayid Hosayn, a young, beardless mullah with a keen gaze and a high-pitched voice, of whom he is fond and to whom he always listens tenderly. Like all the others, Sayid Hosayn kneels and kisses his grandfather's hand with veneration. But once the formality is over, he expresses himself forcefully, in modern, precise terms which jar on the ambiguous and subtle phrases used by his elders, impregnated with traditional theological culture.

He spontaneously volunteers to explain his grandfather's concise remarks to the Western visitor.

Brief and...Definitive Replies

Imam Khomeyni is without doubt one of the most difficult politicians to interview. Impassive, his expression usually sad, he listens more than he talks. On the subject which is obviously close to his heart, that of "U.S. imperialism," he consents to be relatively explicit: "I accuse American agents," he said, "of having General Qarani and Ayatollah Motahari killed. It is these people, who served the shah, who are behind the pseudoreligious Forqan organization. We note that the members of this organization who have just been arrested do not even know the rudiments of Islam."

[Question] "If that is the case, Your Eminence, why did the demonstrators at the funerals of Qarani and Motahhari blame the two killings on the communists? Why did Ayatollah Rafsandjani do the same in a speech delivered in your presence?"

[Answer] "The left, which is one of the political currents in our country, has nothing to do with those crimes. Ayatollah Rafsandjani did not attack the communists, but only those who have donned the mask of the left so as to serve American imperialism better."

The reply seemed to us ambiguous, if not incomprehensible. Sayid Hosayn al-Khomeyni, the imam's grandson, told us after the talk: "Ayatollah Rafsandjani, like all the Islamic faithful, is hostile to communist principles. The mistake he may have made is that of transforming this ideological hostility into political warfare. In perpetrating its crimes, the CIA is clearly seeking to distort our anti-imperialist struggle and arouse internal confrontations intended to turn us aside from our main aim, which is to free our country from the U.S. clutches. Certainly the Marxists are our opponents, but Islam dictates tolerance with respect to them. They will have complete freedom to express themselves within the framework of the constitution which is now being prepared."

Iman Khomeyni and the Bazargan government are both in a hurry to normalize the situation, so as to end a state of affairs which they judge to be extremely dangerous. The fundamental law, which it was said last week would be ready in a few months' time, will now be published during the next fortnight. It will be debated publicly before the election of a constituent assembly, which will have the responsibility of examining it in detail and eventually amending it.

"We want all political formations to be able to be represented within parliament, and we want them to contribute to the formulation of the constitution," Mr (Hossein Abou Assadi), vice president of the council, told us, adding: "That will be the best way of stabilizing the situation."

Mr Bani Sadr, a theoretician of the Islamic revolution and one of the advisers whom Imam Khomeyni most heeds, seeks the formation in the immediate future of a consultative council including representatives of various political formations, in particular secular formations, except for the Tudeh (orthodox communist) Party. Mr Bazargan intends, with the imam's agreement, to resume control of radio and television so as to facilitate the expression of all opinions, including those of national minorities. For the first time, Imam Khomeyni criticized the functioning of the mass media. "We are aware," he told us, "of serious gaps which exist in the press, radio and television. Censorship, which is being exercised by certain groups, is neither total nor systematic. We have expressed the wish that this problem be gradually controlled."

Elsewhere, important concessions would be made to autonomy movements, so as to end the disturbances which prevail in various provinces of the republic. The articles of the draft constitution which relate to minorities, we are assured in high places, will be submitted to Mr Qasemlu, leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party, who is in Tehran at present.

"We are convinced that our country's national minorities have no wish for separatism," Imam Khomeyni told us on this point. "Their aspirations and goals are ours, and we hope to reach agreement soon," he added.

Mr Qasemlu, whom we questioned on this subject, does not entirely share the official authorities' optimism.

He considers that their good will, which is often thwarted by forces as chauvinist as they are obscure, should be manifested in concrete gestures of conciliation toward Kordestan, where the situation, he says, is "explosive." Imam Khomeyni is not far from sharing the Kurdish leader's viewpoint. But he attributes the troubles, in the provinces as in Tehran, to the "imperialists" and the shah's partisans. These last, who are very active, have free access to the republic's territory. "We have not succeeded in controlling our borders, which remain penetrable to infiltrating foreign agents and huge quantities of smuggled arms," the leader of the revolution noted.

The Spirit of Revenge

Someone close to Prime Minister Mr Bazargan who is known for his sober approach asserted in our presence that the secret activities of those who favor restoration have been stepped up recently. This, according to him, would explain the resumption of the trials and executions. "Mr Bazargan," this person added, "deplores bloodshed, which goes against the perfectly tolerant spirit of Islam. However, the government, like Imam Khomeyni, is in the grip of irresistible pressures--so much so that the imam asked Mr Bazargan to mollify public opinion and appeal to its sense of clemency. It was on the instructions of the leader of the revolution that the prime minister criticized the executions a few days ago, in a speech which was broadcast on radio and television."

It seems, according to parallel reports, that the main leaders of the new republic have shared out their roles; some use militant, even aggressive language to keep the masses' confidence; others take on the role--a thankless one in this country--of calling for the lives of the old regime's supporters to be spared. To judge from the various reactions we have met, the man in the street believes those in the latter group to be either "weak men" of counterrevolutionaries, not to say "agents of U.S. imperialism." The current climate does not appear to favor calm or moderation, barely 3 months after the overthrow of a reviled monarchy which was one of the most bloody in the Near East.

The economic state of affairs is also helping to feed the spirit of revolutionary vengeance and impatience among the people. Disturbances take place almost daily in various parts of the country. Last week, for instance, several hundred armed workers, led by two engineers, tried to occupy an Esfahan steel works.

The union of the unemployed--they now number between 1.5 million and 3.5 million--threatens, in a communique, to "unleash a movement of popular action" if its claims are not satisfied "in the next few days." The government's decision to allot a sum of 1 billion tomans (about FR 60 million) for unemployment payments is considered derisory by the union. It is work, and immediately, that the hungry unemployed demand, the union leaders told us.

During our talks, Imam Khomeyni insisted that the economic situation is one of the problems preoccupying him "to the greatest extent" because of the "popular discontent" it is creating. "I am counting on the Iranians' patriotism and their solidarity in the face of the intrigues and ill will of our enemies inside the country and in the West to give the government time to resolve the problems which face it."

The Qom patriarch formulated a wish: "I hope that France, faithful to its will for independence, will not associate itself with the plots which other powers are hatching against the Iranian revolution. It is at this price that good relations between our two countries will be able to be maintained and developed."

Our list of questions was far from exhausted, but the imam abruptly put an end to our talk. At a scarcely perceptible movement of his head, a line of visitors advanced towards him: Two women in chadors, who had come to ask for the release of a close relative, sat modestly nearby, waiting their turn; four men who had come as a delegation fell to their knees before him and kissed his hand ardently; two of them, under the force of emotion, burst into sobs. The imam touched their heads paternally; murmuring, his gaze still fixed on an invisible horizon: "The Lord protect you."

BANGLADESH

FOOD PROCUREMENT DRIVE AVERTS FAMINE

BK081551 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1240 GMT 8 May 79 BK

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The food minister, Mr Abdul Momen Khan, disclosed yesterday that the government has arranged the procurement of about 1,100,050 tons of foodgrains from abroad to meet the present shortage, which will considerably dispel any apprehension of a famine. One is inclined to be helpful (? from the news) that 200,000 tons of foodgrains would be arriving in Bangladesh every month. The government efforts of procuring more food grains would continue.

In a situation where manipulation is possible, the hoarders and blackmarketeers always play a nasty role in holding back the supply to create an artificial scarcity and push the prices up. Any government is compelled to take stern action against the profiteers in an uneasy situation. The government's warning, therefore, against the hoarders has been timely. It would be well-advised to identify these elements and uproot them permanently from the society.

The food minister's assurance that there was nothing to be alarmed about would (?remove) the misunderstanding among the general masses. The government had already mobilized its adequate foodgrains both locally and internationally to meet the situation.

The breakdown of the procurement position is as follows: 200,000 tons of foodgrains, including 50,000 tons of wheat, will come from India, 100,000 tons from the EEC, 50,000 tons from Japan, 97,000 tons under public law 480, 21,000 tons under a Saudi grant from Nepal and Thailand, and 6,500 tons from France.

Referring to the shortfall of foodgrains in the current financial year, the food minister said it has been estimated at 1,300,000 tons, and the shortfall has been more or less covered by procurement of foodgrains both internally and from abroad.

INDIA

VIETNAMESE EDUCATION MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH VAJPAYEE

BK081615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 79 BK

[Text] Vietnamese Education Minister Madame Nguyen Thi Binh called on Prime Minister Morarji Desai. She also had a meeting with External Affairs Minister Vajpayee and Education Minister Dr P.C. Chunder in New Delhi today.

At their nearly 2-hour long talks, Madame Binh and Mr Vajpayee discussed Sino-Vietnamese relations, the situation in Kampuchea and matters likely to come up in the next month's meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the nonaligned countries. Madame Binh is understood to have impressed upon the Indian side that the present government in Kampuchea needs to be supported by every means, including diplomatic means.

Mr Vajpayee pointed out that India is giving assistance in the form of medicine and other materials to help the people of Kampuchea. He also told her that Mr Dinesh Singh, the former external affairs minister, is being sent by the prime minister as a special envoy to visit Vietnam and the ASEAN member countries. He is leaving on this mission on the 14th of this month.

About the Sino-Vietnamese talks in Hanoi, Madame Binh said that Vietnam cannot accept Peking's eight-point proposal, as it restricts her country's sovereignty. Madame Binh, who has come as a special envoy of the Vietnamese prime minister, will have another round of talks with Mr Vajpayee tomorrow.

Discussion on Nonaligned Movement

BK091531 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1440 GMT 9 May 79 BK

[Text] India and Vietnam on 9 May emphasized that the character of the nonaligned movement should be preserved and agreed to continue their efforts to ensure its unity, reports PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA].

External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, special envoy and education minister of Vietnam, also agreed that it was necessary to work for the success of the Havana summit of the nonaligned heads of government in September.

A two hour meeting between Vajpayee and Madame Binh, assisted by senior officials on both sides, marked the completion of two rounds of official talks between them. The two countries decided to continue their efforts to preserve and consolidate the basic postulates of the nonaligned movement and to work for the attainment of the objectives of the movement. The problems expected to come up at the meeting of the nonaligned Coordinating Bureau at Colombo next month were again discussed by Vajpayee and Madame Binh. Among the problems, the representation of Kampuchea is likely to be one, although it is not on the agenda. India as well as Vietnam hope that the Colombo meeting would concentrate on the issues that bind the movement.

Vajpayee, Binh Banquet Speeches

BK100320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 10 May 79 BK

[Text] The external affairs minister has called for immediate action to diffuse the present dangerous situation in Indochina.

Mr Vajpayee was speaking at a banquet given by him in honor of the Vietnamese education minister, Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, in New Delhi last night. He said that the countries of the region can improve their socio-economic conditions only in a climate of peace and harmony. India had always worked to promote mutual trust, friendship and good-neighborliness in the region. We will continue to work along this (path), Mr Vajpayee added.

Describing Madame Binh as a great freedom fighter, he said that the Vietnamese people had attained independence against heavy odds.

In her reply, Madame Binh spoke of the determination of the people of Vietnam to fight against China if it launched another attack. She said her country is still in favor of a negotiated settlement of the problems concerning its relations with China. She expressed the hope that India and all other nonaligned countries will approve the stand taken by Vietnam.

GOVERNMENT SEEKING 2 MILLION TONS OF CRUDE OIL

BK081618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 May 79 BK

[Text] Petroleum Minister Bahuguna told the Lok Sabha that the government is approaching every country, especially the gulf countries, to increase the supply of crude.

He said that the arrangements are yet to be made to cover the unfulfilled gap of 2 million tons.

PARLIAMENT CONCERNED OVER SWISS NUCLEAR EQUIPMENT IN PAKISTAN

BK091053 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 9 May 79 BK

[Text] Two Swiss firms say that they have delivered equipment for a uranium-enrichment plant to Pakistan. Spokesmen of the two countries said in Geneva that the shipments had been cleared by the Swiss Government.

Gas handling units and vacuum-proof valves had been ordered by the Special Works Organization of Rawalpindi and were delivered to Pakistan in June last year. The Swiss Government began an investigation into the deal last week after the United States expressed concern over it.

In New Delhi today the matter was raised in Parliament by some opposition members. They urged the government to take up the matter with Switzerland and France. They also demanded a review of India's nuclear policy.

SRI LANKA

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMEED MEETS SECRETARY VANCE IN U.S.

BK091146 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 9 May 79 BK

[Text] The United States has expressed appreciation and admiration for the role played by Sri Lanka in the international community. This was stated by the U.S. secretary of state, Mr Cyrus Vance, in talks held in Washington with the Sri Lanka foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed. It was explained that Sri Lanka's foreign policy is an extension of the mandate to build a fair and just society.

Sri Lankan concern was expressed about the increasing tension and military presence in the Indian Ocean. Possible avenues that should be explored to ease the situation were discussed.

Mr Hameed also referred to the new constitution which guarantees basic freedom. Referring to the Law of the Sea Conference, the Sri Lanka minister stated our position and said that Sri Lanka claims a fair delimitation should be given its due consideration. Mr Hameed spoke of policy regarding foreign investment and said that he would appreciate if Mr Vance could expedite the visit by a full-fledged delegation to identify areas of investment in Sri Lanka.